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# **RAJ MARWAR DURING BRITISH PARAMOUNTCY**

**( A STUDY IN PROBLEMS AND POLICIES UP TO 1923)**

P. R. Shah  
Reader  
Department of History  
University of Jodhpur

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To the memory of  
My Mother  
KALYANJI



## FOREWORD

It gives me a great pleasure to write a foreword to *Raj Marwar During British Paramountcy*. This study covers an important period of Marwar history. The years 1818-1923 saw the emergence of Marwar as a modern state.

Professor Shah's study unfolds the intricate pattern of Marwar history during a time of change and continuity, reform and reconstruction. I am filled with a sense of pride and exaltation as I read of the dynamic role played by my forefathers in the modernisation and transformation of the State of Marwar. The Modern Jodhpur is a tribute to the vision of its former rulers and the industry of its people.

Going through *Raj Marwar During British Paramountcy* has been an engaging and revealing experience for me. The study bears the imprint of a scholarly objectivity and a keen historical sense.

I congratulate Professor Shah on his achievement. This book is a useful addition to the library of the general reader as also the scholar of Rajasthan history.

June 16. 1992

GAJ SINGH  
MAHARAJA OF JODHPUR

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

It is a happy augury for my endeavour that the foreword to this book comes from Maharaja Gaj Singh, the scion of the house of Rathores who ruled over Marwar for six hundred years till its integration into Rajasthan. Maharaja Gaj Singh continues to uphold the traditions of his forefathers with vision and dynamism in a new setup. I am indeed grateful to him for his kind gesture.

I owe a deep debt of gratitude to the late Dr. Dasharatha Sharma, formerly Professor and Head of the Department of History, University of Jodhpur, for his effective guidance, which enabled me to carry out the present study. It is a privilege for me to pay my homage to the memory of that embodiment of *Vinay* and *Vidya* who infused in me a yearning for search and research.

I cannot adequately acknowledge my debt to the late Mehta Ranjeet Mal, Puisne Judge, Rajasthan High Court, and Mehta Daulat Ram, Advocate, Marwar Chief Court from whom I have had the good fortune to receive oral information. They were eye witness to the events that took place since the turn of of the century. I am also especially indebted to the late Shri Nathuram Khadgawat, Founder-Director of the Rajasthan State Archives who gave me the benefit of his wide knowledge and deep reflection.

I am equally grateful to my esteemed friend Dr. R.P. Vyas for his valuable suggestions and eagerness to see this study in print. So am I obliged to Dr. P.N. Mathur. I owe a good deal to Dr. P.C. Kumbhat who prepared the maps with painstaking accuracy and care, to Dr. M. D. Mehta whose keen interest made my task easy, to Prof. K.V. Naithani who helped and advised me

in more than one way, and to Prof. Pukhraj Arya who saw the typescript through the press. I have been helped by my daughter Usha in the compilation of the index.

Thanks are also due to the University of Jodhpur for subsidising the publication from the U G.C. grant. I will be failing in my duty if I do not mention that Messrs Sharda Publishing House, Jodhpur, brought out this book expeditiously in which task they were helped by Shri Prem Singh of Rajasthan Law Weekly Press, Jodhpur.

## PREFACE

With the conclusion of treaties with the British East India Company a new era of Renaissance, ringing out the old and ringing in the new, began in the history of Rajasthan. A process of slow but certain metamorphosis from medievalism to modernism set in. This factor has still not been given due place in the history of this region. For this simple reason an attempt has been made in this study to analyse and assess the institutional growth of administration, society and public welfare in Marwar during British Paramountcy till 1923 when this largest princely state of Rajasthan awakened to the events of national significance.

At the beginning of the nineteenth century Marwar had lost security and helplessly depended upon hired help for half a century. The paramount power gave it security against the Maratha-Pathan menace, but its administration continued to be too weak to maintain law and order. The material and cultural benefits, Marwar had derived from its close affinity with the Mughals, were lost. At the close of the first quarter of the twentieth century there was peace and order in the state. It possessed an administration which could command respect from neighbouring states, a disciplined and meritorious military force, an extensive system of railways, and a modest but effective programme of public welfare.

Much of this progress and change was brought about with the aid and influence of the British. This influence was direct, continuous and mostly constructive. The paramount power recognised successions, performed investitures, initiated and approved administrative measures, lent services of competent officers and thrice assumed management and control of the state because of the minority of its Maharajas, Sardar Singh, Sumer Singh and Umaid Singh.

For the most part of the later half of this period Sir Pratap, first as *Musahib Ala* during the reign of his brother Jaswant Singh II (1873-95) and then as Regent during the three minorities, was at the helm of Raj Marwar. He had an untiring zeal for reform and he was

determined to put the state in the forefront in every walk of life. The political officers of the Marwar Political Agency and the Western Rajputana States' Residency were men of ability and character; and there was a communion of spirit between them and Sir Pratap.

In reckoning the final balance sheet the other side of the shield has not been ignored. A foreign power was bound to give preference to its own interests. It also kept a tight stranglehold on the political life of Marwar. Little was done to further the political aspirations of a generation, the horizons of which had been widened by the spread of education, politics of agitation in British India and foreign contacts during the First World War.

The treatise opens with a rapid survey of the rise of Raj Marwar and the consolidation of its institutions under the Mughal impact. The succession feuds and petty squabbles culminating in Maratha-Pindari-Pathan attacks, which forced Marwar to conclude the treaty of 1818, also form part of chapter I. The next chapter deals with the feudal problems and challenges that provided easy opportunities to the paramount power to intervene and mediate in the internal affairs of Marwar and promote imperial interests as well.

Chapter III analyses the early difficulties of Maharaja Jaswant Singh II, factors leading to closer contacts with the paramount power and the measures initiated for the rationalisation and reform of judicial and revenue administration. Chapter IV is devoted to the administrative problems and policies during the period 1895-1923 when Marwar owing to the minority of its rulers was thrice placed directly under the management of the paramount power. These three decades were marked by the evolution of efficient and modernised administrative institutions on the one hand and by the maintenance of the age-old traditions on the other. Chapter V mainly deals with the organisation and the upkeep of the Jodhpur State Forces, which participated in the imperial campaigns at the turn of the century and covered themselves with glory during the war.

While the administration was being reformed, the introduction of railways, the imperial postal unity and the imperial currency provided effective measures for economic unity. These have been examined in Chapter VI. The next chapter deals with works of public utility, famine-relief, irrigation, conservation of forests and a

programme of medical-relief, vaccination, public health and improved civic life. Chapter VIII reviews the introduction of modern education. In spite of the transformation of administration and the growth of public welfare the traditional social order, based upon caste and privilege, resisted reform and change. Chapter IX gives an overview of the feudal structure, castes and customs and the measures for the abolition of inhuman social evils. The last chapter shows how Marwar had to acquiesce in territorial concessions and economic losses and how the awakening prepared it for a fuller political life.

This study has been based mostly upon a close examination of manuscript records preserved at the National Archives, New Delhi, and the Rajasthan State Archives, Bikaner. This source material has also been supplemented by reports, works and books available at the Rajasthan University Library as 'Abu Papers'. Useful material has also been procured from Jodhpur University Library; Chopasani Shodh Sansthan, Jodhpur; Sardar Museum, Jodhpur; Sumer Public Library, Jodhpur and S. D. M. Institute of Oriental Research, Jodhpur. An attempt has been made at a rational and balanced interpretation of facts. Half a dozen maps have been provided to make the presentation vivid.

I hope this modest contribution to the history of Raj Marwar will be found useful and interesting by students, scholars and the general reader of history. I shall deem it a favour to be acquainted with the shortcomings in the book. Every possible endeavour will be made to remove them.

RAJASTHAN DAY  
March 30, 1981

P. R. SHAH

## ABBREVIATIONS

A.G.G.	Agent to the Governor-General in Rajputana
A.R.S.	Report on the Political Administration of Rajputana States
For. Gen.	General Proceedings of the Foreign Department to the Government of India
For. Int.	Internal Proceedings of the Foreign Department to the Government of India
For. Pol.	Political Consultations/Proceedings of the Foreign/Foreign and Political Department to the Government of India
For. Sec.	Secret Consultations/Proceedings of the Foreign/Foreign and Political Department to the Government of India
J.B. Railway	Jodhpur-Bikaner Railway
J. Railway	Jodhpur Railway
K.W(s).	Keepwith(s)
M.A.R./MAR	Marwar Administration Report
M.K.	Mehkma Khas
MFFR/MFR	Marwar Famine-relief/Famine Report
N.A.	National Archives of India, New Delhi
P.A.	Political Agent
Pr(s).	Proceeding(s)
RAOHR	Rajputana Agency Office, Historical Records
RSAJ	Rajasthan State Archives Bikaner, Jodhpur Records
RWRS	Resident, Western Rajputana States
Secy. For.	Secretary to the Government in the Foreign/Foreign and Political Department
WRSR	Western Rajputana States Residency
WRSA	Administration of Western Rajputana States

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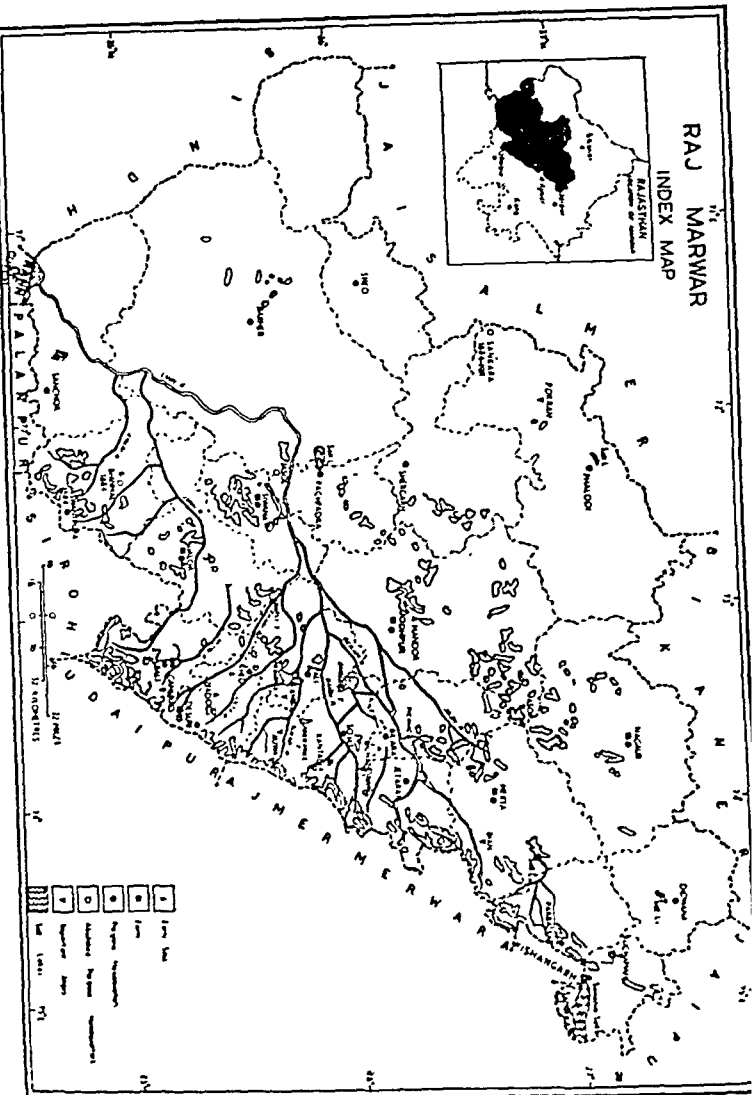
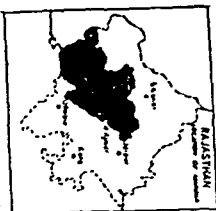
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RAJ MARWAR



## Chapter I

# HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

### Foundation of the Raj

Raj Marwar,<sup>1</sup> alternately known as the Jodhpur State after its capital, formed the dominions of the *Rathores* for five hundred years or so. This land had a hoary antiquity. Here, early man lived on the banks of the Luni.<sup>2</sup> Centuries later trade caravans passed through it to the sea ports of the western coasts. Thus originated the towns of Bhinmal, Jalore, Mandore, Nagaur and Pali. In the eighth century Marwar, then known as Gurajara with Jalore as its capital, was ruled over by the *Pratiharas* of whom Nagbhatta I freed Rajasthan and other areas from Arab control.<sup>3</sup>

After their decline rose the *Chauhans*, who had established their sway over large parts of Marwar<sup>4</sup> and created a considerable local civilisation. To this area Setaran and his son Siha, the descendants of Jaichand *Rathore* of Kanauj, migrated after the occupation of their homeland in the Gangetic valley by the foreigners. Siha and his son Asthan served Bhinmal and Pali merchants as security officers, and finally established themselves at Khed.<sup>5</sup> From such small beginnings the *Rathores* pushed their sway over the south and the west. The disintegration of the *Chauhan* principalities of Jalore and Siwana in 1311 made it easier for them to extend their possessions. They occupied the present day Barmer and Jalore districts by 1365.

In 1394, Rao Chunda took Mandore by force of arms and made his possession secure by marrying the daughter of Inda *Parihar*.<sup>6</sup> He conquered Didwana, Nagaur and Sambhar and

---

1. Raj Marwar, with an area of 56016 sq kms, lay between the parallels of 24° 37' and 27° 42' north latitude and 70° 5' and 75° 22' east longitude. It was bounded on the north by Bikaner; on the north-west by Jaisalmer; on the west by Sindh; on the south-west by Runn of Cutch; on the south by Palanpur and Sirohi; on the south-east by Udaipur; on the east by Ajmer-Merwara and Kishangarh and on the north-east by Jaipur.

(i) See Index Map.

(ii) Erskine, K.D. *Western Rajputana States Gazetteer*, Vol. III A, Chap. I.

(iii) MAR (1922-23), Chap. I, p. 1.

2. Sharma, Dasharatha, *Rajasthan Through the Ages*, Vol. I, pp. 34 and 44.

3. Ibid., p. 122.

4. Sharma, Dasharatha, *Early Chauhan Dynasties*, pp. 58, 77, 144 and 148.

5. (i) Ojha, G. H., *Jodhpur Rajya ka Itihas*, Vol. I, pp. 156 and 159.

(ii) Reu, B. N., *Marwar ka Itihas*, Vol. I, pp. 35, 38 and 44.

6. (i) Shyamal Das, *Vira Vinoda*, Vol. II, pp. 803.

(ii) Ojha, op. cit., Vol. I, pp. 205-06.

pushed his arms as far as Ajmer.<sup>7</sup> He married his daughter to *Maharana* Lakha of Mewar to strengthen his position, but the next two generations saw some fratricidal conflict. Ranmal was favoured by his maternal nephew *Maharana* Mokal. He became master of Mandore and also captured some other territories. In 1437, Ranmal was assassinated, and Mandore was temporarily lost to the *Rathores*.<sup>8</sup> Rao Jodha recovered much of the lost territory. On May 12, 1459 he founded Jodhpur and transferred to it the seat of administration.<sup>9</sup> Thus came into being Raj Marwar, the largest princely state of erstwhile Rajputana. Under Maldeo (1532-62) it reached the zenith of its power and territory.

### Marwar Under Mughal Influence (1556-1678)

Maldeo's ambitious career of conquest brought him in conflict with Shershah Sur. The Afghan was on the ace of defeat. He could secure a narrow victory only by recourse to a stratagem, and that victory too proved short-lived.<sup>10</sup> Maldeo regained most of his possessions in the confusion that ensued Shershah's death.<sup>11</sup> A war of succession broke out among his sons. Taking advantage of it the *Mughals* annexed Marwar and made it into a *sarkar* in the Ajmer *suba*.<sup>12</sup>

Akbar proclaimed his Rajput policy in 1570 at the Nagaur conference which was attended among the rulers of Rajasthan both by Chandrasen and Udai Singh, the rival claimants to the Jodhpur *gaddi*. Akbar assured the *Rajput* chiefs of their ancestral possessions as representatives of the empire. Recognition of their successors would be an imperial favour. They should, therefore, pay tribute, render military service and give their daughters in marriage to the *Mughal* princes. In return, they would be

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7. (i) Reu, op. cit., Vol. I, pp. 62-63.  
(ii) Asopa, Ramkaran, *Marwar ka Itihas*, p. 89.
  8. (i) Ojha, op. cit., pp. 225 and 228-29.  
(ii) Asopa, op. cit., pp. 101-02.  
(iii) Reu, op. cit., Vol. I, pp. 69, 73, 77 and 78.
  9. (i) Snyamal Das, op. cit., pp. 323-24.  
(ii) Ojha, op. cit., pp. 237-41.  
(iii) Reu, op. cit., pp. 87-91.
  10. (i) Qanungo, K.R., *Shershah and His Times* (1921), pp. 323-30.  
(ii) Reu, op. cit., Vol. I, p. 129-31.  
(iii) Bhargava, V. S., *Marwar and the Mughals*, pp. 31-33.
  11. (i) Ojha, op. cit., Vol. I, p. 310.  
(ii) Asopa, op. cit., p. 136.  
(iii) Reu, op. cit., Vol. I, p. 132.
  12. (i) Ojha, op. cit., Vol. I, pp. 335-37.  
(ii) Reu, op. cit., Vol. I, p. 150.  
(iii) Bhargava, op. cit., pp. 46 and 57.  
(iv) Parihar, G. R., *Marwar and the Marathas*, p. xiii.

given *Mansabs* commensurate with their status and service.<sup>13</sup> Udai Singh accepted the *Mughal* sovereignty and received *Mansabs*, Chandrasen continued wandering like a rebel till his death in 1581. In 1583, Udai Singh married his daughter to prince Salim and then received the *gaddi* of Marwar. His title was not challenged by the sons of Chandrasen nor by the nobles, who had opposed him earlier. He had now the support of the mighty *Mughal* emperor. Thus, Udai Singh's accession marked a new phase in the history of Marwar.<sup>14</sup>

All the rulers of Marwar from 1583 to 1678 were honoured *Mansabdars* of the *Mughal* throne. They conducted and participated in many campaigns on its behalf and were entrusted with important missions and commands. They attended the *Mughal* court as grantees and had to obtain leave from the emperor for returning to their patrimony. On him depended the recognition and confirmation of their title to the *gaddi* of Marwar. This vassalage brought the *Rathore* rulers wealth, influence and dignity and to their dominions consolidation, peace and prosperity. Marwar became safe from invasions from the side of Delhi and there was no fear of internal revolt. Its rulers had the backing of the mighty *Mughals*, hence the refractory nobles came under control. Wealth flew from Gujarat and the *Deccan* to the sandy plains of Marwar.<sup>15</sup> During this period of active imperial service and close touch with the *Mughal* court and nobility it was hard for the chiefs of Marwar to escape *Mughal* influence in the administration of their hereditary dominions. The *Mughal* king was an absolute ruler. In practice, there were no limitations to his power. He could increase the taxes, change the land assessment, punish anybody without reference to law. This absolutism infiltrated Marwar.

During the earlier period of settlement the *Rathore* chiefs were assisted by their kinsmen in the defence of their realm and victorious marches. Their services were rewarded by the grant of land in perpetuity. As such, they considered themselves co-sharers of the state, and the sovereign chief among equals. The nearest legitimate descendant in the direct line from the founder of the state was elevated to the throne. The claim was, however, confirmed by the kinsmen. It became proverbial that he alone, whom the descendants of Ridmal recognised, could become the ruler. This

13. (i) Reu, op. cit., Vol. I, pp. 151 and 173.

(ii) Bhargava, op. cit., pp. 47-49.

(iii) Parihar, op. cit., p. xiii.

14. (i) Bhargava, op. cit., pp. 57-59.

(ii) Parihar, op. cit., p. xiv.

15. (i) Bhargava, op. cit., pp. 77-79.

gave rise to clash of interests and succession feuds. Secondly, the nobles became ambitious and uncontrollable during the days of weak rulers. Maldeo, therefore, added the element of service with fidelity to the concepts of kinship, co-operation and co-sharer-ship. As a result of the *Mughal* impact the authority of the *Rathore* chiefs was strengthened. They imitated the *Mughal* emperors in the infliction of tortures, confiscation of property and humiliation of those who incurred their displeasure. After the *Mughal* pattern the *Maharaja* levied *Peshkash* later on called *Hukamnamā* (succession fee), and *Rekh* (military cess) on the landed aristocracy. Besides, they had to supply him with horsemen, camel *sowars* and footmen for *Chakri* (service) and present *Nazars*. Thus, the relations of the *Rathore* chiefs with their nobility became feudal in practice.<sup>16</sup>

This major change in the status of the nobles vis-a-vis the ruler was brought about by Govind Das *Bhati*, the *Musahib* of Sur Singh. He also introduced the *Mughal* system of administration in Jodhpur. Offices of *Diwan*, *Bakshi*, *Vakil*, *Kotwal*, *Hakim*, *Karkoon*, *Daftari*, *Daroga*, *Kanungo*, *Potedar*, *Wakia-navis*, etc. were created and civil servants were appointed to them. The *Diwan* was the head of the civil administration. He was primarily a finance and revenue officer, and he also supervised the *Pargana Hakims*. The *Bakshi* was the officer-in-charge of the army and was responsible for recruitment of soldiers and payment of salaries to them. He led the forces in time of war. The post of the *Vakil* was equally important. He represented the state at foreign courts. The *Kotwal* was incharge of the city and he held his court at *kotwali-chautra*.

Roughly, eighty four villages constituted in earlier days an administrative unit which was named after the clan.<sup>17</sup> After the *Mughal* pattern the territory of Marwar was divided into *parganas*. Each *pargana* was looked after by a *Hakim*. He was incharge of *pargana katcheries* and acted as a revenue officer and magistrate. The *parganas* were sub-divided into circles called *taffas* under *thanedars*. They were police and revenue officials under the *hakims*. *Pargana* Jodhpur with 1,167 villages was divided into nineteen *taffas* and that of Merta with 384 villages into nine *taffas*. The other *parganas* were Phalodi, Pokran, Jaitaran, Siwana and Sojat. The major sources of revenue were land rent, grazing tax and export

16. (i) Hardayal Singh, *Mujmuhi Halat va Intzam Raj Marwar*, paras 124, 137, 138-39 and 404-05, pp. 353, 440 and 753-54.

(ii) *Rev. op. cit.*, Vol. II, pp. 627-28.

(iii) Vyas, R. P., *Role of Nobility in Marwar (1803-73)*, pp. 27-28.

17. *Idri-ri-chaurasi*, *Sankhla-ri-chaurasi*, etc. Nensi, *Marwar-rai-Pargana-ri-Vigat*, Part I, p. 23.

and import duties. Besides them, some other cesses were also introduced.<sup>18</sup>

The military organisation of the *Rathores* also underwent a change. Prior to the advent of the *Mughals* the soldiers of Marwar were mostly camel riders and footmen. Their chief weapons were swords, daggers, javelins and lances. During the *Mughal* period the Marwar army was famous as light cavalry. *Dak* chowkies were also established.<sup>19</sup> As a result of attending *Mughal* court and exchanging presents the rulers, the nobility and the official class of Marwar were slowly and gradually influenced in their dress, language, manners and etiquette by the *Mughal* ways of living.<sup>20</sup>

### The War of Rathore Independence (1679-1708)

The death of Jaswant Singh I at Jamrud on November 28, 1678 and the birth of two posthumous sons, of whom only Ajit Singh survived, produced an ominous situation. Aurangzeb took Marwar under the direct administration of the crown and tried to keep the baby prince at Delhi. Suspicious of the designs of the *Mughal* emperor the *Rathore* nobles led by Durgadas quietly rescued and carried him to safety in Marwar.<sup>21</sup> This made Aurangzeb furious. Ruthless operations were launched against Marwar. Her nobles offered stubborn resistance to the *Mughals* in the name of their minor prince. Thus began the War of *Rathore* Independence which lasted till the death of Aurangzeb. The outstanding result of this war in the realm of Marwar was that her nobles recovered their old power, and the central authority weakened.

### Marwar and the Later Mughals (1708-1749)

The death of Aurangzeb was followed by a fratricidal war among his sons. Ajit Singh, taking advantage of it, recovered his hereditary dominions. To save Marwar from ruin he submitted to Muazzam who had ascended the *Mughal* throne with the title of Bahadur Shah. Sawai Jai Singh of Amber and Amar Singh II

18. (i) Nensi, op. cit., Part II, pp. 189 and 203-04.

(ii) Hardayal Singh, op. cit., paras 101, 368, 404-405 and 424, pp. 279, 709-10, 753-54 and 773.

(iii) Bhargava, op. cit., pp. 172-74.

(iv) Parihar, op. cit., Appendix G., pp. 282-97.

19. (i) Hardayal Singh, op. cit., para 406, pp. 755-56.

(ii) Bhargava, op. cit., p. 175.

(iii) ut infra, Chap. V, 103-04 and Chap. VI, pp.

20. Sharma, G. N. *Social life in Mediaeval Rajasthan*, pp. 48-49.

21. (i) Shyamal Das, op. cit., pp. 828-29.

(ii) Ojha, op. cit., Vol. I, p. 467 and Vol. II, pp. 478-79, 482-83 and 488.

(iii) Reu, op. cit., Vol. I, pp. 241, 248-50, 254 and 259-60.

(vi) Bhargava, op. cit., pp. 115-17 and 122-24.



of Mewar also acknowledged his suzerainty. Ajit Singh was made the governor of Gujarat in November, 1712. He gave his daughter in marriage to Farrukhsiyar and sent his son Abhay Singh to the imperial court. This matrimonial alliance brought Ajit Singh in closer contact with the imperial house and the well known *Sayyid* brothers and increased his importance as a *Mughal* grandee. He could then annex Nagaur to his dominions.<sup>24</sup>

The *Mughal* court was full of intrigues and counter-intrigues. Farrukhsliyar was put to death. His successor Rafi-uddarjat abolished *jazia* at the very first audience on the advice of the *Rathore* prince who, two years later, acquired the governorship of Ajmer in addition to that of Gujarat, which he retained.<sup>25</sup> Ajit Singh attained this position during the period of *Sayyid* domination. With their downfall came his ruin. He was deprived of the governorship both of Gujarat and Ajmer in May, 1721 and was ultimately murdered on June 23, 1724 by his younger son Bakhat Singh with the connivance of the heir-apparent Abhay Singh.<sup>26</sup> The *Mughal* emperor recognised Abhay Singh as his father's successor and, besides Jodhpur, gave him Nagaur together with the title of *Raj Rajeswar* and a *mansab* of 7000 *Zat* and 7000 *Sowar*. He was also appointed the governor of Gujarat in 1730. On the security of Gujarat depended the security of the southern frontiers of Marwar from *Maratha* inroads and that of the trade routes, which kept *Marwari* traders in close contact with the sea ports and the *Deccan*. The *Maratha* pressure on Gujarat was formidable. Abhay Singh, therefore, came to an agreement with the *Marathas* and returned to Marwar.<sup>27</sup>

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22. (i) Satish Chandra, *Parties and Politics in the Mughal Court*, p. 74.  
 (ii) Bhargava, *op. cit.*, p. 152.  
 (iii) Reu, *op. cit.*, Vol. I, p. 305.
  23. (i) Ojha, *op. cit.*, p. 565.  
 (ii) Reu, *op. cit.*, Vol. I, pp. 309-13.  
 (iii) Bhargava, *op. cit.*, p. 158.
  24. (i) Ojha, *op. cit.*, Vol. II, pp. 580.  
 (ii) Reu, *op. cit.*, Vol. I, pp. 314-15.  
 (iii) Reu, *Glories of Marwar and Glorious Rathores*, pp. 115-17. (Ajit Singh's letter to Siqdar Dayaldas).  
 (iv) Bhargava, *op. cit.*, p. 159.
  25. (i) Shyamal Das, *op. cit.*, p. 842.  
 (ii) Ojha, *op. cit.*, Vol. II, p. 586.  
 (iii) Reu, *op. cit.*, Vol. I, p. 318 (foot note 2).  
 (iv) Bhargava, *op. cit.*, p. 161.
  26. (i) Shyamal Das, *op. cit.*, p. 842.  
 (ii) Reu, *op. cit.*, Vol. I, pp. 321 and 327.  
 (iii) Bhargava, *op. cit.*, pp. 164-65.  
 (iv) Parihar, *op. cit.*, p. 25.
  27. (i) Bhargava, *op. cit.*, pp. 169-70.  
 (ii) Parihar, *op. cit.*, pp. 39-49.

While Abhay Singh remained at Jodhpur, his brother Bakhat Singh fought against Nadir Shah *Durrani* and obtained the governorship of Gujarat and Ajmer.<sup>28</sup> He thus became him both formidable and ambitious and took recourse to rebellion against the authority of his brother. This rift in the house of Marwar set the stage for a war of succession after the death of Abhay Singh. Thus, the decay and dissolution of the *Mughal* empire brought deterioration also to the fortunes of Marwar. It gave rise to succession feuds and plunged her into quarrels with her neighbours; and they, in turn, fanned rivalry among the feudal nobility. The cumulative effect of these factors resulted in the increasing interference of the *Marathas* in the affairs of Marwar.

### Marwar and the Marathas

Abhay Singh was succeeded by his son Ram Singh but his powerful uncle Bakhat Singh declared war against him and he was received at Jodhpur as its ruler in July, 1751.<sup>29</sup> Ram Singh obtained help from the *Marathas* who accepted two months pay in advance for a force of ten thousand.<sup>30</sup> Bakhat Singh tried to organise a confederacy against the *Marathas*, but he died on September 21, 1752. His only son Vijai Singh was installed on the throne. Ram Singh was on the look out for *Maratha* aid. The civil war between the *Mughal* emperor and his *wazir* had brought the *Marathas* to the north. As soon as they were free from imperial affairs, Jayappa *Sindhia* was sent for restoring Ram Singh.<sup>31</sup> Vijai Singh could scarcely match the superior strength of the *Marathas*. He was forced to sue for peace. Before its conclusion Jayappa was murdered at Nagaur. This infuriated the *Marathas* and they determined to crush Marwar. Vijai Singh ultimately concluded a treaty with the *Marathas* in 1756. Ajmer was ceded to them. A war indemnity of fifty lacs of rupees was imposed on him. He would also pay annually a tribute of one lac and a half to the *Marathas*. Marwar was partitioned between Ram Singh and Vijai Singh by a separate treaty.<sup>32</sup> Ram Singh agreed to pay half the customs revenues of his territory to the *Marathas*.<sup>33</sup>

28. (i) Shyamal Das, op. cit., pp. 828-29.

(ii) Ojha, op. cit., Vol. I, pp. 467 and Vol. II, pp. 478-79, 482-83 and 488,

(iii) Reu, op. cit., Vol. I, pp. 241, 248-50, 254 and 259-60.

(iv) Bhargava, op. cit., pp. 115-17 and 122-24.

29. (i) Ojha, op. cit., Vol. II, pp. 684-86.

(ii) Reu, op. cit., Vol. I, p. 365.

(iii) Parihar, op. cit., p. 68.

30. (i) Reu, op. cit., Vol. I, pp. 365-66.

(ii) Parihar, op. cit., p. 71.

31. (i) Ibid., pp. 78-79.

32. (i) Reu, op. cit., Vol. I, pp. 374-75.

(ii) Parihar, op. cit., 85-89.

33. Ibid., p. 89.

Vijai Singh wanted to regain lost territories. The invasion of Ahmad Shah Abdali, culminating in the third battle of Panipat, enabled him to annex them one by one and Ram Singh left Marwar for good<sup>34</sup> Thus ended the feud between the two cousins, but Marwar had become a tributary of the *Marathas*.

During these years of ruinous rivalry, Marwar exhausted her wealth, and the drain of her resources was very heavy. The country was desolated. Roads became unsafe and standing crops were destroyed. Thus, commerce diminished and crown lands lay uncultivated. Some *jagirdars* remained loyal to Ram Singh while others deserted him. This caused internal dissensions and conspired to increase the power of the nobles. They became unruly, imposed their own imposts and plundered caravans. In fine, Marwar was politically exhausted and economically crippled. Her finances were in subsequent years too weak to meet the demands of the *Marathas*. In default they attacked her every year in search of plunder. Thus, Marwar became a special hunting ground of the *Marathas*. Poll tax and house tax were imposed all over Marwar to meet their demands.

### The Treaty with the British (1818)

At the beginning of the nineteenth century the British looked upon Marwar as a possible ally in their struggle against the *Marathas*. In December, 1803 an alliance, which would have secured for Man Singh his territories without the payment of any tribute, was offered by the British East India Company.<sup>35</sup> Wellesley ratified it, but Man Singh proposed another and also gave assistance to the *Holkar*. The treaty was, therefore, cancelled in May, 1804 and Marwar was left to its own resources.<sup>36</sup>

Trouble quickly followed. A posthumous son named Dhokal Singh was born to the late *Maharaja* Bhim Singh. Man Singh's opponents discovered in him a legitimate candidate for the *gaddi* of Marwar.<sup>37</sup> He also got into a deadly conflict with Jagat Singh of

34. Parihar, op. cit., pp. 95-96.

35. (i) Aitchison, C. U., *Treaties, Sanads and Engagements*, Vol. III, (1928), pp. 114 and 126-27.

(ii) Reu, op. cit., Vol. II, p. 403.

36. (i) For. Sec. Sept. 6, 1804 No. 6 (Secretary to Governor-General to Resident with Sindhia d. May 9).

(ii) Prinsep, *History of Military and Political Transactions in India*, Vol. I, p. 7.

(iii) Aitchison, op. cit., Vol. III, p. 114.

37. (i) Tod, J., *Annals and Antiquities of Rajasthan*, Vol. II, p. 154.

(ii) Reu, op. cit., Vol. II, pp. 404-05.

Jaipur, for the princess of Mewar. Her hand had earlier been offered to Bhim Singh of Jodhpur but before the wedding could be held the latter passed away in 1803. Her father, therefore, decided to marry her to Jagat Singh of Jaipur. Man Singh was instigated to claim her hand.<sup>38</sup> Behind this matrimonial rivalry loomed larger questions of social prestige and power politics.

In January, 1807 Dhokal Singh was brought to Jaipur and publicly acknowledged as the legitimate ruler of Jodhpur.<sup>39</sup> Besides, Jagat Singh could win the support of Daulat Rao *Sindhia*, Amir Khan, the free booter, and the rulers of Bikaner and Shahpura. A powerful band of *Rathore* nobles led by Sawai Singh of Pokran also joined him.<sup>40</sup> The united forces attacked Man Singh. Deceitful role of some of his nobles worsened the situation. Man Singh had to flee from the battle field. He was chased by the enemies. Everywhere on the way, the Marwar nobles joined Dhokal Singh and his authority was proclaimed.

Completely isolated, Man Singh approached the British Resident at Delhi for protection.<sup>41</sup> This proved all in vain; yet the tide turned in his favour. The scarcity of water and fodder began telling upon the enemy. Secondly, being disgusted with the atrocities committed by Jagat Singh's followers many *Rathore* nobles left the Jaipur camp. Help was obtained from Daulat Rao *Sindhia*. Amir Khan's relations with the ruler of Jaipur and Sawai Singh had strained. He was bought off by Man Singh's commander Indraraj Singhvi. The *Rathores* paid in advance Rs. 1,00,000 to Amir Khan who then with his own army joined the loyal *Rathore* troops and dashed towards Jaipur. The enemy suffered a total defeat and the Jaipur territory was plundered.<sup>42</sup>

These happenings forced Jagat Singh to retire post-haste to defend his own capital. He had to take humiliating precautions to prevent his retreat from being intercepted and turned into a rout.

38. (i) For. Pol. Jan. 29, 1807 No. 32.

(ii) Reu, op. cit., Vol. II, pp. 405-06.

39. (i) For. Pol. Feb. 5, 1807 No. 127 (Seton to Edmonstone d. Jan. 20).

(ii) RSAJ, *Tawarikh Basta* 40 Book 7, p. 49.

(iii) Malcolm, *Memoirs of Central India*, Vol. I, p. 333.

(iv) Reu, op. cit., Vol. II, p. 407.

40. (i) For. Pol. Jan. 29, 1807 No. 32 (Seton to Edmonstone d. Jan. 15).

(ii) For. Sec. March 19, 1807 No. 3 (Seton to Edmonstone d. March 1).

41. (i) For. Pol. March 12, 1807 No. 28 (Edmonstone to Seton d. March 12).

(ii) For. Pol. March 12, 1807 No. 26 (Seton to Edmonstone d. Feb. 20).

42. (i) For. Pol. Sept. 8, 1807 No. 13 A (Seton to Edmonstone d. Aug. 21).

(ii) RSAJ, *Khus Rukka Parwana Bahi* 2, pp. 36 and 37.

(iii) RSAJ, *Tawarikh Basta* 40, Book 7, p. 74.

(iv) Reu, op. cit., Vol. II, pp. 410-11.

He could free himself from the peril by paying Rs. 1,00,000 to Amir Khan.<sup>43</sup> Dhokal Singh, with the rebellious nobles, was still to be dealt with. He had taken refuge at Nagaur and was defended by a *Maratha* garrison. Man Singh again looked to Amir Khan for support. He was received with open arms and given an advance of Rs. 3,00,000 with a promise of a further reward for crushing the rival. Amir Khan got Sawai Singh and his accomplices murdered and established Man Singh's supremacy over Nagaur. Dhokal Singh fled to Shekhawati.<sup>44</sup> Having fulfilled his task Amir Khan received as the reward Rs. 13,00,000, the two large towns of Moondwa and Kuchaliabas, and Rs. 100 a day as daily allowance for his nefarious act.<sup>45</sup>

Amir Khan looted Jaipur and Jagat Singh had to come to terms with Man Singh. The Mewar princess was poisoned in August, 1810.<sup>46</sup> All this increased the influence of the *Pathan* free-booter. Man Singh was practically his subsidiary ally. His brigade was stationed at Jodhpur and he exacted heavy sums from Man Singh. He could satisfy his insatiable demands only by resorting to oppressive measures, which added to the sufferings of his subjects. Factions and intrigues spread all over the state. Powerful nobles plundered freely to maintain their troops, which they had enlarged beyond their means to safeguard their positions. Travelling became unsafe and administration too unsettled and weak to afford security. In order to free himself from such a hapless servitude Man Singh again approached the British Resident at Delhi in 1814 for reviving the treaty of 1803, but the British were bound by treaties with *Sindhia* and *Holkar* not to interfere in Jodhpur.<sup>47</sup>

In September, 1815 Amir Khan again appeared in Jodhpur to blackmail. At this time the *Maharaja* was under the influence of his *Diwan* *Inderraj Singhvi* and spiritual head *Ayasji Deonath*. This annoyed many nobles. They formed an opposite faction and conspired with the ferocious *Pathan*, who put the *Diwan* and the

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43. (i) For. Pol. Oct. 26, 1807 No. 21 (Seton to Edmonstone d. Oct. 8).

(ii) For. Pol. Nov. 16, 1807 No. 1.

(iii) Ojha, op. cit., Vol. II, p. 804.

44. (i) Tod, op. cit., Vol. II, p. 114.

(ii) Reu, op. cit., pp. 412-13.

(iii) Vyas, op. cit., pp. 63-64.

45. (i) For. Pol. Feb. 6, 1818 No. 102 (Metcalf to Adam d. Jan. 15).

(ii) Tod, op. cit., Vol. II, pp. 1090.

46. (i) Shyamal Das, op. cit., Vol. II, pp. 1738-39.

(ii) Ojha, op. cit., Vol. II, pp. 813-14.

47. For. Pol. April 22, 1814 No. 11 (Metcalf to Adam d. April 3).

high priest to death. The conspirators paid him Rs. 10,00,00 and usurped governing powers.<sup>48</sup>

The assassination struck grief and terror in the heart of the *Maharaja* who affected insanity and became a recluse. On April 19, 1817, his only son Chattar Singh assumed the regency. Power was passed on to the opposite faction with Mutha Akheychand as *Diwan* and Salim Singh of Pokran as *Pradhan*.<sup>49</sup>

During this period of confusion, attempts were again made for the revival of the treaty of 1803 with the British, but it did not suit their interests. They were guided by a policy of non-intervention.<sup>50</sup> A change, however, soon came in the British policy during the governor-generalship of Hastings. With a view to crushing the *Pindaris* he decided to take all the princely states of Rajasthan under British protection. Being tired of the ravages of Amir Khan and Bapuji *Sindhia* throughout 1816 and the first half of 1817 the Jodhpur *Maharaja* asked his *Vakil* Asopa Bishan Ram to negotiate a treaty with the British.<sup>51</sup>

Conditions at Jodhpur were not at all stable. From the pecuniary point of view the state of Jodhpur was of little significance. But the bravery of its people was likely to provide the British government with a powerful auxiliary force.<sup>52</sup> After protracted negotiations a treaty was concluded jointly by Man Singh and the heir-apparent Chhatar Singh on January 6, 1818.<sup>53</sup> Jodhpur was brought under British protection and deprived of its foreign relations. The tribute payable to *Sindhia* was henceforth to be paid to the British government and the *Maharaja* engaged himself to furnish it with fifteen hundred horses for general service and his entire army in an emergency.<sup>54</sup> Besides these stipulations, the paramount power agreed to disallow Udaipur's claim to Godwad *pargana*, give a free hand to Jodhpur for the recovery of Umarkote from the

48. (i) For. Pol. Nov. 25, 1815 No. 31 (Metcalf to Adam d. Nov. 2).  
(ii) RSAJ, Jodhpur *Haqiqat Bahi* 10, pp. 88-89.

(iii) Reu, op. cit., Vol. II, p. 417.

49. (i) For. Pol. June 14, 1817 No. 13 (Metcalf to Adam d. May 29).  
(ii) For. Pol. Aug. 15, 1817 No. 40 (Man Singh to Metcalf d. June 132).  
(iii) RSAJ, *Haqiqat Bahi* 10, p. 117.

(iv) Reu, op. cit., Vol. II, p. 420.

50. (i) For. Pol. March 12, 1807 No. 26 (Seton to Edmonstone d. Feb. 20).  
(ii) For. Pol. April 22, 1814 No. 11 (Metcalf to Adam d. April 3).

51. Tod, op. cit., Vol. II, p. 1093.

52. For. Sec. Oct. 28, 1817 No. 20.

53. For. Sec. Feb. 6, 1818 No. 102 (Metcalf to Adam d. Jan. 15).

54. Annexure I, pp. 1 to IV.

*Amirs* of Sind and not to call on the Jodhpur contingent to serve south of the Narbada.<sup>55</sup> No provision was made for interference in the affairs of Jodhpur, but it was not barred too, if an emergent situation necessitated it. Where the treaty failed, political practices crept in. Disorganised government, feudal challenges, problems of minority administration, unforeseen events, needs of changing times and, above all, imperial interests gave opportunities to the paramount power to reduce Marwar like all the other princely states to utter subordination.

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55. (i) For. Sec. Feb. 6, 1818 No. 102 (Metcalf to Adam d. Jan. 15).  
(ii) For. Pol. March 6, 1818 No. 4 (Adam to Metcalf d. Feb. 1).  
(iii) Marwar Precs, p. 1.

## Chapter II

# FEUDAL PROBLEMS AND CHALLENGES (1818-73)

### Restoration and Reaction

The treaty of 1818 could bring about little change in the internal condition of Marwar. The untimely death of prince regent Chhatar Singh without leaving behind a son worsened the situation. His father Man Singh was restored to the *Gaddi* by the nobles. The faction headed by Salim Singh of Pokran with *Muhta* Akbaichand as *Diwan* controlled the administration. To Man Singh, who had feigned madness this faction was an eye-sore, but he seemingly lent support to it.<sup>2</sup> This added to the confusion and the government got completely disorganised. Bandits plundered and harassed the people, and there was little justice. The British Resident at Delhi in such a grim situation sent his *Mirmunshi* Barkat Ali to Jodhpur for an on-the-spot enquiry.<sup>3</sup> As soon as the *Mirmunshi* saw the *Maharaja*, he could make out that his insanity was feigned and he was on the look out for an opportunity to seize power.<sup>4</sup> Having become sure of British support and marked the goodwill of both friendly and unfriendly factions, Man Singh threw off the mask and resumed power on October 29, 1818.<sup>5</sup> The British Superintendent of Ajmer looked upon the *Maharaja* as a man of ability, but too weak to infuse vigour in the administration. James Tod, who visited Jodhpur in November, 1819, also formed the same estimate of the *Maharaja*. He considered improvement of finances, regularisation of feudal claims and counter-claims, reorganisation of troops and constitution of an effective police to guard the frontiers as the first essential condition for an efficient government in

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1. For. Pol. A. April 24, 1818 No. 46 ( Metcalfe to Adam No. 134 d. April 2 ).
  2. (i) Marwar Precis, pp. 11-12.  
(ii) Tod, Vol. II, p. 115.
  3. (i) For. Pol. No. V. 7, 1818 No. 33-36.  
(ii) RSAJ, *Kharita Bahi* 12, p. 243 (Ochterlony to Man Singh).  
(iii) RSAJ, *Haqiqat Bahi* 10, pp. 216, 217 and 221.
  4. (i) Pr. 56 (Barkat Ali Report) in For. Pol. A. Dec. 26, 1818 No. 52-57.  
(ii) RSAJ, *Haqiqat Bahi* 10, p. 216.  
(iii) RSAJ, *Marwar-ki-khyat*, Vol. III, p. 269.  
(iv) Shyamal Das, op. cit., p. 867.
  5. (i) Pr. 56 (Barkat Ali Report), loc. cit.  
(ii) RSAJ, *Marwar-ki-khyat*, Vol. III, p. 274.  
(iii) Reu, Vol. II, p. 423.



Marwar. The British offered aid for restoration of law and order.<sup>6</sup> This could have amounted to interference in domestic affairs. Man Singh, therefore, declined the offer politely saying that the readiness of the paramount power to help him was by itself a weapon potent enough to face the problem.<sup>7</sup>

### Estrangement of Nobles

Taking advantage of the situation the ruling faction began putting down its opponents. The policy consolidated the opposition. Being aware of the internal clashes and conflicts and hopeful of British help Man Singh came out in true colours in 1820 and inflicted ruthless punishments upon the Pokran faction. Akhaichand and his followers were put to death. He was replaced by *Singhvi* Fatehraj as *Diwan*.<sup>8</sup> Man Singh now adopted violent measures for suppressing feudal chiefs regardless of their fidelity and conduct. Their estates were confiscated. This estranged all the nobles, but being divided they could not defend themselves.<sup>9</sup> A few important nobles in the bewilderment left Marwar and took refuge in sister states.<sup>10</sup> They tried hard to regain their possessions by British mediation, but it was banned by the treaty of 1818 and was liable to aggravate the evil.<sup>11</sup> The Nasirabad Resident advised the exiled *thakurs* to resolve their differences with the *Maharaja*. Assurances were given to them by the Jodhpur *Vakil* in the Resident's presence<sup>12</sup>, but facts were misrepresented and the nobles were again driven into exile.<sup>13</sup> Such a breach of faith could not be endured

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6. For. Pol. Feb. 20, 1819 No. 19 (Wilder to Ochterlony d. Jan. 23).
  7. (i) For. Pol. Jan. 22, 1820 No. 65 (Tod to Metcalfe d. Nov. 25, 1819).  
(ii) Tod, Vol. II, pp. 118-19.  
(iii) RSAJ, *Haqiqat Bahi* 10, pp. 275-76 and 278.
  8. (i) For. Pol. Feb. 20, 1819, 19 (Wilder to Ochterlony d. Jan. 23).  
(ii) Tod, Vol. II, p. 118.
  9. (i) For. Pol. Dec. 26, 1818 No. 55-56.  
(ii) Tod, Vol. II, pp. 116-117.  
(iii) RSAJ, *Marwar-ki-khyat* Vol. III, p. 274.
  10. (i) Pr. 14 (Wilder to Ochterlony d. Feb. 22) in For. Pol. A March 31, 1821 No. 13-14.  
(ii) RSAJ, *Marwar-ki-khyat*, Vol. III, pp. 284-87.  
(iii) Shyamal Das, op. cit., pp. 867-68.  
(iv) Tod, Vol. II, p. 219.  
(v) Vyas, op. cit., pp. 88-92.
  11. (i) For. Pol. March 31, 1821 No. 13-14.  
(ii) Marwar *Precis*, p. 12.  
(iii) Vyas, op. cit., pp. 92-93.
  12. (i) For. Pol. Dec. 8, 1821 No. 42-43. The nobles belonged to the estates of Auwa, Asop, Ras, Rohat, Satheen, Chandawal, Boodsoo, etc.  
(ii) RSAJ, *Marwar-ki-khyat*, Vol. III, p. 295.
  13. (i) For. Pol. 182 Dec. 8, 1821, No. 42-43.  
(ii) For. Pol. March 20, 1822, No. 32 (Wilder to Ochterlony d. Jan. 18).  
(iii) Despatch to the Court of Directors, Sept. 12, 1823, p. 241.

by the British government. Wilder was, therefore, deputed with discretionary powers to look into the matter.<sup>14</sup>

Conceding that the British government should abstain from interposing in his internal affairs, Wilder impressed upon the *Maharaja* that his ruthless policy of proscription, was proving a severe burden on the other allied states, where the exiled ones had taken shelter. They might take to predatory life and excite disturbances. Besides, it was unfair to punish them for former offences when they had been disabled from seeking redress. It was politic to forgive and forget all the misdeeds that had resulted from anarchy and misrule of earlier decades. At the same time Wilder agreed with the *Maharaja* that if those *thakurs* were restored through mediation, they would, in future, never submit to his authority and others would follow their example. At last on February 25, 1824 the *Maharaja* agreed to reinstate all the *thakurs* except those of Boodsoo and Chandawal. He was assured by Wilder that in the event of their future misconduct the government would not poke its nose.<sup>17</sup> This stipulation was reluctantly confirmed by the Governor-General-in-Council.<sup>18</sup>

Peace was, however, not restored to Marwar. There was no trust and goodwill between the nobles and their master. Trouble again arose in the following year when Man Singh resumed three villages of Auwa.<sup>19</sup> During the next three years it developed into a general conflagration. With the aid of foreign troops the *Maharaja* expelled the recalcitrant *thakurs*.<sup>20</sup> Their agents appealed to the Ajmer Political Agent for redress, but to no purpose.<sup>21</sup> Disappointed and disgruntled they took to plundering and revived the claim of Dhokal Singh, who lived in Delhi under British protection. He also received support from Jaipur and succeeded in reaching as far as Merta in Marwar.<sup>22</sup> In the midst of this crisis Man Singh's troops

14. (i) For. Pol. April 30, 1824, No. 25 (Wilder Report d. March 13).

(ii) *Reu*, Vol. II, p. 425.

15. (i) For. Pol. July 9, 1824 No. 25 (Wilder Report d. March 13).

(iii) *RSAJ, Marwar-ki-khyat*, Vol. III, p. 309.

16. For. Pol. A. Jan 9, 1824 No. 9 (Swinton to Ochterlony of the same date).

17. (i) For. Pol. April 30, 1824 No. 20 (Wilder to Swinton d. March 6).

(ii) *RSJA, Kharita Bahi* No. 12, pp. 346, 347 and 355.

(iii) Aitchison, Part III (1932), pp. 130-31.

18. For. Pol. April 30, 1824 No. 33-36 (Swinton to Wilder of the same date).

19. For. Pol. May 5, 1826 No. 13 (Middleton to Metcalfe d. April 4).

20. (i) For. Pol. July 29, 1828 No. 24 (Cavendish to Colebrooke d. July 4).

(ii) For. Pol. Aug 8, 1828 No. 24 (Cavendish to Colebrooke d. July 9).

(iii) Shyamal Das, op. cit., p. 869.

21. (i) For. Pol. July 29, 1828 No. 25 (Cavendish to Colebrooke d. July 5).

(ii) *RSAJ, Kharita Bahi*, No. 12 p. 347.

22. (i) For. Pol. July 29, 1828 No. 10-11.

(ii) For. Pol. June 13, 1828 No. 1, 2, 3 and 4.

(iii) *Vyas*, op. cit., pp. 104-109.

clamoured for pay. His treasury was empty. His people were disgusted for he had levied heavy contributions on them.<sup>23</sup>

Man Singh urged upon the British government to help him. Admitting his claim for protection against unjust usurpation and wanton rebellion, the paramount power declared that it could not support him against universal disaffection caused by his own injustice and incapacity. It, however, agreed to come to his rescue if he submitted his differences with his nobles to the arbitration of the Governor-General.<sup>24</sup> This meant an indirect support to the nobles, but Man Singh had to swallow the bitter pill.<sup>25</sup> Dhokal Singh was asked by the Political Agent to withdraw from the confederacy of the nobles and leave Marwar.<sup>26</sup> Remonstrances were addressed to the Jaipur *Darbar*. The crisis was thus averted but the *Maharaja* had to settle his differences with the nobles.<sup>27</sup> The agreement arrived at between them was based on expediency and not on principle. It merely darned and patched and proved to be only make-shift.

### Anti-British Role of the Maharaja

Man Singh could not forget the stern remonstrances of the Governor-General. About the same time he was not supported by the British in his disputes with Sirohi, which had entered into the subsidiary alliance with the British in 1823. At the time of the treaty of 1818 it was claimed that the state of Sirohi had paid tribute and rendered service to Marwar since the time of Abhay Singh. This claim was not admitted by the British on the plea that the tribute had been levied by Abhay Singh in his capacity as *Mughal* commander and not as the ruler of Marwar. Besides, Sirohi had been an appendage of Mewar.<sup>28</sup> In protest, Man Singh gave shelter to Appa Sahib Bhonsle of Nagpur in spite of warnings from the British government.<sup>29</sup> He encouraged ravages on the frontiers of

23. For. Pol. A. June 13, 1828 No. 1 (Cavendish to Colebrooke d. April 24).

24. (i) For. Pol. July 29, 1828 No. 26 (Secy. For. to Resident Delhi).

(ii) Marwar Precis, p. 23.

25. (i) For. Pol. Aug 16, 1827 No. 18 (Cavendish to Colebrooke d. July 14).

(ii) Vyas, op. cit., p. 109.

26. For. Pol. Aug. 16, 1828 No. 18 (Cavendish to Colebrooke d. July 14).

27. (i) For. Pol. Aug. 29, 1838 No. 15 (Cavendish to Colebrooke d. Aug. 1).

(ii) Vyas, op. cit., pp. 110-11.

28. Khadgawat, Rajasthan's Role in the Struggle of 1857, p. 132.

29. Having failed in his efforts to reoccupy Nagpur Appa Sahib escaped to Jodhpur.

(i) For. Pol. June 19, 1829 No. 26 (Cavendish to Colebrooke d. May 25 and Resident, Delhi to Mehta Bachh Raj).

(ii) For. Pol. July 3, 1829 No. 28 (Cavendish to Colebrooke d. June 8).

(iii) For. Pol. July 31, 1829 No. 8 (Cavendish to Colebrooke d. July 29).

(iv) Shvamal Das, op. cit., pp. 307-8.

(v) RSAJ, *Marwar-ki-khyat*, Vol. III, pp. 328-29.

Sirohi and Ajmer. The entire administration of Marwar was kept at the mercy of the Naths much against the wishes of the paramount power. Man Singh publicly exhibited his anti-British attitude in 1831 when he did not attend the Ajmer assemblage of the princes of Rajasthan which had been summoned by the Governor-General William Bentinck.<sup>30</sup>

In 1832, the British Government undertook military operations against the *khosa* freebooters in Nagar Parkar. The rulers of Jodhpur and Jaisalmer were asked to send their troops to aid the Parkar Field Force. The Jodhpur troops were sent unwillingly.<sup>31</sup> After successful operations against the freebooters in Parkar attempts were made to clear Malani, where they used to retire for safety. Many *khosa* robbers were captured in Malani, but the Jodhpur force tried to thwart the operations.<sup>32</sup> Some of its men even plundered Jaisalmer villages.<sup>33</sup> The Jodhpur contingent was again summoned to help the British troops in the suppression of Shekhawati robbers. Man Singh despatched it in January, 1830 but with the same unwillingness.<sup>34</sup> The force had no discipline and was quite unfit for the purpose. Men of this contingent plundered Rampura in Udaipur state.<sup>35</sup>

This gave an opportunity to the Ajmer Political Agent to propose that Marwar, instead of furnishing 1500 Horse, should pay for a body of 1000 Horse under British command.<sup>36</sup> The proposal did not find favour with the higher ups, but Man Singh was scolded for his arrogant attitude by the Governor-General.<sup>37</sup> The same year the British government extended operations against the *thugs* but the Jodhpur Maharaja and his dependent *thakur* of Alaniawas gave them shelter.<sup>38</sup> Again, a few robbers from Marwar robbed the Assistant Surgeon's house in Ajmer Agency on October 6, 1833. The Political Agent demanded restoration of property and punishment to the outlaws. Man Singh denied that the offenders were his

30. (i) For. Pol. May 7, 1832 No. 32 (Man Singh to Vice-President d. April 4).

(ii) RSAJ, *Haqiqat Bahi* 8, p. 5.

(iii) RSAJ, *Marwar-ki-khyat*, Vol. III, pp. 341-42.

31. For. Pol. Nov. 26, 1832 No. 14 (Lockett to Macnaghten d. Sept. 28).

32. For. Pol. June 6, 1833 No. 12 (Lockett to Macnaghten d. April 4).

33. (i) For. Pol. April 16, 1833 No. 17 (Lockett to Man Singh d. March 20 and 22).

(ii) For. Pol. June 6, 1833 No. 13 (Man Singh to Lockett undated).

34. (i) For. Pol. Nov. 26, 1832 No. 14 (Lockett to Macnaghten d. Sept. 28).

(ii) For. Pol. June 6, 1833 No. 20 (Lockett to Macnaghten d. March 6).

35. For. Pol. June 6, 1833 No. 12 (Lockett to Macnaghten d. April 4).

36. Ibid.

37. For. Pol. June 6, 1833 No. 18 (Bentinck to Man Singh d. June 6).

38. (i) For. Pol. Dec. 5, 1833 No. 20 (Lockett to Macnaghten d. Oct. 26).

(ii) RAOHR 215 File 5, Jodhpur Vol. I, 1834, p. 21.

subjects.<sup>39</sup> To add insult to injury, he detained grain which had been bought for the British force in Nasirabad.<sup>40</sup> Man Singh had also not paid any heed to the Governor-General's admonition. At home, his state was a house divided against itself. He took no steps to conciliate his nobles. His ministers neglected the interest of the state and the welfare of the people. The British dues were in arrears.

### Commutation of Horse Contingent into Money Payment

The persistent and wilful disregard on the part of Marwar forced the British government to take stern steps against it lest its example should be imitated by other states. On May, 1834 the Agent to the Governor-General was asked by the supreme government to demand from it reparation for aggressions in the neighbourhood, security against recurrence of similar misconduct, and co-operation in the operations against the *thugs*.<sup>41</sup> The A.G.G. Nathaniel Alves sent a strong note of protest to the Maharaja and asked him to send a deputation with powers to settle every question.<sup>42</sup> The character and disposition of Man Singh afforded little hope to the Governor-General. Troops were, therefore, mobilised at Ajmer to march against him. At this juncture Alves was asked to make two additional demands, *viz.*,

(i) that Marwar should defray the cost of assembling the field force.

(ii) that in lieu of 1500 Horse it should pay for the maintenance of 1000 Horse under British command.

In case of resistance, Man Singh should be deposed and Dhokal Singh installed on the *gaddi*.<sup>43</sup>

This news, somehow, reached Man Singh and before the Agent could act, he sent a conciliatory mission to Ajmer. It agreed to all the original demands of the British government and one of the additional ones for the payment of the cost of mobilising the field

39. (i) For. Pol. Dec. 5, 1833 No. 22 (Lockett to Man Singh d. Oct. 10).

(ii) RAOHR 215 file 5, Jodhpur Vol. I, 1834, p. 21.

40. (i) For. Pol. Dec. 5, 1833 No. 18-24.

(ii) *Marwar Precis*, p. 31-32.

41. For. Pol. May 15, 1834 No. 37 (Trevelyan to Alves d. May 15).

42. (i) RAOHR 215 File 5, Jodhpur Vol. I, 1834, p. 21 (Alves to Man Singh d. Aug. 14, 1833)

(ii) The Jodhpur *khyats* do not mention any such military action. Khadgawat, op. cit., p. 138.

43. (i) For. Pol. Sept. 13, 1834 No. 8 (Macnaghten to Alves d. Aug. 22).

(ii) RAOHR 216 File 5, Jodhpur Vol. I, 1834, p. 6.

(iii) RSAJ, *Arji Bahi* (V.S. 1868-84), p. 193.

(iv) Shyamal Das, op. cit., p. 870.

force up to five lacs of rupees.<sup>44</sup> The demand pertaining to the commutation of the maintenance of 1500 Horse into money payment had not been negotiated. No material guarantee had been given for the accepted terms. The British government sequestered the Jodhpur share of Sambhar Salt Works assuring that as soon as the expenses were reimbursed, it would be restored.<sup>45</sup> The Political Agent deputed Trevelyan to secure the commutation of the Horse contingent into money payment and the co-operation of Jodhpur for the apprehension of the *thugs*. Man Singh this time promised all assistance to the *thuggi* officers.<sup>46</sup> In this way he gave up his right to sanctuary in case of *thugs*. He also agreed after some resistance to pay one lac and fifteen thousand rupees annually in lieu of the obligation to provide a contingent of 1500 Horse.<sup>47</sup> The Jodhpur Legion was accordingly raised at Ajmer in 1836 and its headquarters were shifted to Erinpura on the Marwar-Sirohi border in March, 1842.<sup>48</sup> Marwar was indeed the first princely state of Rajasthan where the paramount power introduced the policy of raising a contingent at its expense.

### British Occupation of Chang and Kotkirana (1834)

In 1824 Man Singh had made over to the British government twenty-one villages of Chang and Kotkirana *parganas* of Marwar. With a view to putting down lawless elements he had also agreed to pay fifteen thousand rupees a year for the upkeep of a local corps. This agreement was renewed in 1835 for nine years and seven additional villages were put under the British administration. These seven were resumed by Marwar in 1843, and the rest remained under the British government without any definite agreement.<sup>49</sup>

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44. (i) For. Pol. Dec. 2, 1834 No. 24 (Man Singh to Alves d. Sept. 10).  
 (ii) For. Pol. Dec. 2, 1834 No. 28 (Man Singh to Bentinck).  
 (iii) *Marwar Precs*, pp. 37-38, para 30.  
 (iv) RASJ, *Marwar-ki-khyat*, Vol. III, p. 350.
  45. (i) For. Pol. Feb. 19, 1835 No. 34 (Edmonstone to Alves d. Jan. 27).  
 (ii) RSAJ, *Marwar-ki-khyat*, Vol. III, pp. 352-53.  
 (iii) *Marwar Precs*, p. 37, para 30.
  46. For. Pol. Nov. 16, 1835 No. 31 (Trevelyan to Alves d. Oct. 23).
  47. (i) For. Pol. Nov. 2, 1835 No. 42 (Man Singh to Alves).  
 (ii) For. Pol. Oct. 19, 1835 No. 32 (Alves to Macnaghten d. Sept. 26).  
 (iii) RSAJ, *Haqikat Bahi* 36, p. 147.  
 (iv) RSAJ, *Kharita Bahi* 10, p. 347.  
 (v) RSAJ, *Marwar-ki-khyat* Vol. III, pp. 359-60.
  48. Capt Downing, the Commandant of the Jodhpur Legion, named the place after his native land 'Eran'. The place is these days called Jawai Bandh.  
 (i) For. Pol. March 28, 1836 No. 41 A (Alves to Macnaghten d. March 5).  
 (ii) *Ojha*, Vol. II, p. 852.
  49. (i) RSAJ, *Reports of Capt. Hall*, Dec. 1834.  
 (ii) Dixon, *Sketch of Merwara* (1850), pp. 13-28.  
 (iii) Aitchison, op. cit., pp. 115 and 131-33.

### British Occupation of Malani (1836)

Even after the capture of *khosa* freebooters and outlaws in Malani in 1832, the feudal elements of this district continued pillaging and plundering Sindh, Gujarat and Kutch. The British government asked the Maharaja in vain to suppress them. The state had almost no troops except the *jagir* militia which had neither the will nor the ability to act with vigour against *jagirdar* outlaws. Convinced of the incapacity of the ruler of Marwar and his administration the British occupied in 1836 the disturbed district of Malani and placed it under the control of the Bombay government.<sup>50</sup> Some of the nobles were arrested and sent to Kutch-Bhuj. Peace was thus restored in the region. The excess of revenue of Malani over its expenditure was paid to Marwar by the British government.<sup>51</sup> In 1849, the superintendent of Malani was withdrawn and its administration entrusted to Marwar Political Agent.

### Maladministration

Cordial relations were thus restored for a time between Marwar and the British but no improvement could take place in the affairs of the state. Administration was carried on by such officials as neglected the state interests and public welfare. They even connived at depredations in and around the capital.<sup>52</sup> The people groaned under oppression, exaction and confiscation. The nobles too were alienated. Many of them either went away to sister states or took to outlawry. Roads were thus rendered unsafe for travellers. The state was over head and ears in debt. The Maharaja borrowed money even for domestic needs. The British dues for tribute and Jodhpur Legion had also run heavily into arrears.<sup>53</sup>

The A.G.G. impressed upon the Maharaja the need for an efficient administration but to no purpose.<sup>54</sup> On his advice the government sequestrated on January 29, 1838 the Salt Work of Nawa and Gudha as security for the realization of claims from Marwar

50. (i) For. Pol. Sept. 26, 1836 No. 12 (Pottinger to Macnaghten d. Sept. 5).  
(ii) In 1839, Barmer was transferred from the control of Bombay government to the AGG in Rajputana.  
For. Pol. Sept. 8, 1839 No. 46 (Maddock to Sutherland d. June 10).
51. For. Pol. Nov. 14, 1851 No. 156 (Malcolm to Low d. Jan. 1).
52. (i) For. Pol. March 20, 1837 No. 64-65.  
(ii) RSAJ, *Marwar-ki-khyat*, Vol. III, p. 362.  
(iii) *Marwar Precs*, pp. 52-53.
53. (i) For. Pol. March 21, 1838 No. 112 (Alves to Prinsep d. Jan. 29).  
(ii) For. Pol. March 24, 1838 No. 26 (Alves to Prinsep d. March 2).
54. For. Pol. March 7, 1838 No. 27 (Alves to Man Singh d. Jan. 26).

but the revenue thereof proved too insufficient.<sup>55</sup> At this very time the Marwar Vakil was abruptly withdrawn from the Agency.<sup>56</sup> All the hopes of Alves were thus belied. To add fuel to the fire the aggrieved nobles made a common cause against the Maharaja and sought British support for redress of their grievances.<sup>57</sup>

### Marwar Political Agency

At this juncture Sutherland assumed charge of the Rajputana Agency on February 12, 1839. He left for Jodhpur on March 23, 1839 with his assistant Ludlow and disgruntled nobles to settle all the outstanding issues at personal level.<sup>58</sup> Sutherland advised the Maharaja to put his administration in order, to check border depredations, to pay off the arrears of tribute and restore to the expatriated nobles their possessions and rights. After protracted negotiations he agreed to pay all the pecuniary claims of the British government, but Sutherland's efforts for an efficient government and just settlement of the claims of the nobles ended in smoke. On June 1, 1839, he left for Ajmer in disgust and with him returned the *thakurs* of Auwa, Nimbaj, Pokaran and Ras.<sup>59</sup> The A.G.G. was now determined on military action.<sup>60</sup> The British force marched against Jodhpur and occupied the fort on September 28, 1839.<sup>61</sup> Man Singh, in utter helplessness, executed a personal agreement for good government and Sutherland restored the Salt Works of Sambhar, Nawa and Gudha to Marwar.<sup>62</sup> In exercise of his special powers he appointed Ludlow as the Jodhpur Political Agent.<sup>63</sup> This marked the establishment of the Marwar Political Agency, to which the Maharaja deputed a *Vakil*.<sup>64</sup> The British interference in the internal affairs of the state henceforth became more effective and dominating. Steps were now

55. (i) For. Pol. March 21, 1838 No. 112 (Alves to Prinsep d. Jan. 29).  
(ii) For. Pol. June 13, 1838 No. 2 (Macnaghten to Alves d. March 7).
56. For. Pol. Oct. 12, 1838 No. 111 (Alves to Macnaghten d. Sept. 26).
57. (i) For. Pol. March 7, 1838 No. 25-26.  
(ii) RSAJ, *Marwar-ki-khyat*, Vol. III, p. 370.
58. (i) For. Pol. July 24, 1839 No. 38 (Sutherland to Maddock d. June 10).  
(ii) RSAJ, *Haqiqat Khata Bahi* 12, p. 253.  
(iii) RSAJ, *Kharita Bahi* 12, p. 347.  
(iv) RSAJ, *Marwar-ki-khyat*, p. 372.  
(v) Shyamal Das, op. cit., p. 871.
59. (i) For. Pol. July 24, 1839 No. 39 (Sutherland to Maddock d. July 10).  
(ii) RSAJ, *Marwar-ki-khyat*, Vol. III, pp. 372-78.  
(iii) RSAJ, *Arji Bahi* 6, pp. 201-06.
60. For. Sec. Aug. 7, 1839 No. 37 (Torrens to Sutherland d. July 11).
61. (i) For. Sec. Nov. 13, 1839 No. 97 (Sutherland to Maddock d. Aug. 21).  
(ii) RSAJ, *Haqiqat Bahi* 13, p. 218.
62. (i) For. Pol. Feb. 24, 1840 No. 34 (Sutherland to Maddock d. Oct. 20, 1839).  
(ii) RSAJ, *Kharita Bahi* 13, pp. 353, 460 and 461.  
(iii) RSAJ, *Kharita Bahi* 10, p. 350.
63. For. Pol. March 15, 1841 No. 35 (Sutherland to Maddock d. Jan. 3).
64. For. Pol. April 6, 1840 No. 41 (Sutherland to Hamilton d. March 7).



taken by the British government to realise all the outstanding dues amounting to six lacs and fifty-five thousand rupees.<sup>65</sup> The nobles, the ministers and the *pasbans* together agreed to contribute three lacs of rupees on account of arrears of *Rekh* towards this payment. The balance of three lacs and fifty-five thousand was realised as house tax. In future, the Sambhar revenues would be paid towards clearing the annual tribute of one lac and eight thousand rupees and the balance from other resources of the state. The *Sowar-kharch* of one lac and fifteen thousand rupees was to be paid in the form of *Rekh* by the *jagirdars*.<sup>66</sup>

### Rationalisation of Administration

A ministry consisting of men of ability was formed in order to rationalise administration and the new Marwar Political Agent Ludlow was vested with extensive authority over the administration.<sup>67</sup> A *panchayat* from amongst the nobles and officers of the *Raj* was constituted to settle the conflicting claims of the nobles and draw up a code for the guidance of the ministry and the Political Agent.<sup>68</sup> It worked in perfect unison and performed both the tasks admirably. The code consisting of forty articles laid down schemes of administration of revenue and justice, rules of conduct for officials and rights and duties of the nobles. Rules for abolition of inhuman social evils were also provided.<sup>69</sup> The territorial claims of the principal nobles were settled.<sup>70</sup> The British garrison was then withdrawn from the fort.<sup>71</sup> The administration was reconstituted with a council of eight nobles and five officials under the Maharaja.<sup>72</sup> There was an all round improvement in the state. Modest reforms were carried out and harmony was restored among the various organs of administration. Merchants and traders could move freely from one mart to another.<sup>73</sup> But the

65. For. Pol. Feb. 24, 1840 No. 41 (Maddock to Sutherland d. Nov. 7, 1839).

66. For. Pol. Feb. 24, 1840 No. 37 (Sutherland to Maddock, d. Dec. 29, 1839).

67. Ibid.

68. (i) For. Pol. March 15, 1841 No. 37 (Sutherland to Maddock Dec. 29, 1839).

(ii) RSAJ, *Kharita Bahi* 16, pp. 252-54.

(iii) RSAJ, *Marwar-ki-khyat*, Vol. III, pp. 408-09.

(iv) *Marwar Precis*, p. 76.

69. (i) RAOHR 228 File 14A. Jodhpur Vol. VII, 1841.

(ii) For. Pol. March 15, 1841 No. 35-36 (Ludlow to Sutherland d. Nov. 26, 1840).

(iii) RSAJ, *Marwar-ki-khyat*, Vol. III, p. 409-10.

70. (i) Ludlow to Sutherland, d. Nov. 26, 1840, loc. cit.

(ii) For. Pol. March 23, 1840 No. 55 (Sutherland to Davidson d. Feb. 18).

(iii) RSAJ, *Marwar-ki-khyat*, Vol. III, p. 415.

71. (i) For. Pol. March 23, 1840 No. 57 (Sutherland to Hamilton d. March 2).

(ii) RSAJ, *Marwar-ki-khyat*, Vol. III, p. 414.

72. (i) For. Pol. March 15, 1841 No. 35 (Sutherland to Maddock d. Jan. 3).

(ii) For. Pol. Feb. 10, 1841 No. 50 (Ludlow Report on Jodhpur d. Jan. 15).

73. *Marwar Preci*, p. 114.

influence of the wily *Naths*, who were notorious for their ignoble deeds, did not end. Ludlow made up his mind in 1843 to capture them.<sup>74</sup> This hurt Man Singh. His health broke down and he died on September 5, 1843, surrounded by the *Naths*.<sup>75</sup>

### Takhat Singh's Early Measures

Man Singh left behind no male heir. Takhat Singh, chief of Ahmadnagar, succeeded to the *gaddi* of Marwar by the unanimous choice of his widows, nobles and officials. He was the nearest kin to the late Maharaja and the latter had mentioned his name to Ludlow.<sup>76</sup> Takhat Singh in his little principality used to take the help and advice of the political officers in all matters. He continued this policy in Jodhpur.<sup>77</sup> Ludlow's successor, French, took active interest in the internal affairs of the state.<sup>78</sup> He even tried to obtain the services of a European officer for training the Jodhpur troops and supervising its engineering works. His plan was rejected and he was directed not to exert himself in the internal affairs.<sup>79</sup>

Takhat Singh, however, made a good beginning. The factional politics of the nobility was on the decline. *Diwani* and *Faujdar*i courts were separated. Civil and criminal laws of Jaipur were introduced in Marwar. Wazir Singh, an experienced judge from that state, was appointed to administer justice. Tanks were repaired both in the capital and in the districts. Roads were built in and about the city and trees were planted along the new and old roads. Infanticide and import of children for sale were prohibited. Wedding gifts payable to *Charans* by *Rajputs* were again regulated. Steps were taken to promote learning. *Vidyashala* was founded towards this end. Books were procured for the state library. The newly founded observatory was equipped with astronomical instruments.<sup>80</sup>

An attempt was also made to wipe out the pernicious system of giving shelter to outlaws. The Marwar Court of *Vakils* constituted by the *vakils* of Jodhpur, Bikaner, Jaisalmer and Sirohi with the

74. For. Pol. June 14, 1843 No. 104 (Ludlow to Sutherland d. May 3).

75. For. Pol. Sept. 30, 1843 No. 53 (Ludlow to Sutherland Sept. 6).

76. (i) For. Pol. Jan. 27, 1844 No. 32 (Ludlow to Sutherland d. Oct. 17, 1843).

(ii) For. Pol. Jan. 27, 1844 No. 41 (Ludlow to Thoresby d. Dec. 2, 1843).

77. For. Pol. Feb. 1844 No. 50 (Ludlow Report on Jodhpur d. Jan. 16).

78. For. Pol. Feb. 1, 1845 No. 24 (Jodhpur since Jan. 20, 1844).

79. For. Pol. Feb. 1, 1845 No. 55 (Currie to Thoresby of the same date).

80. (i) For. Pol. Feb. 20, 1844 No. 91.

(ii) For. Pol. March 7, 1844 No. 47-51.

(iii) For. Pol. Aug. 7, 1847 No. 847 (Sutherland's review of Jodhpur affairs).

(iv) RAOHR 237 File 52, Jodhpur Vol. I, 1843, p. 145-47.

(v) *Marwar Precis*, pp 132-26

(vi) RSAJ, *Marwar-ki-khyat*, Vol. III, p. 433-40.

Political Agent as chairman was established to settle cases of border depredations. The judgements were subject to the approval of the A.G.G.<sup>81</sup> But the understanding between the Maharaja and his nobles proved short lived. Greathed, who became Marwar Political Agent in 1845, adopted a policy of disinterestedness in the home affairs of the state.<sup>82</sup> It misled Takhat Singh to believe that he enjoyed the full support of the British. He began realising *Rekh* and other dues from the nobles at exorbitant and arbitrary rates. A number of *jagirs* were attached in 1847.<sup>83</sup>

### Rekh Settlement

Originally, *Rekh* meant the gross revenue of a village. *Jagirdars* supplied cavaliers and infantry men to their rulers for military service. After the downfall of the Mughal empire it was no longer required. But in order to ward off the *Marathas* additional sources of revenue had to be discovered. Annual demand, popularly called *Rekh*, was made in lieu of military service. In 1755, thirty per cent of the scheduled income was demanded from the *jagirdars* as *Rekh*. In 1790, half their revenue was realised. During the first half of the nineteenth century whenever the finances of the state were weak, *Rekh* was levied on the *jagirdars* at heavy and varying rates to meet extraordinary situations. In 1839, the nobles had agreed to provide to the state with a yearly revenue of one lac and fifteen thousand rupees on account of *Rekh*. The average annual revenue for the period 1843 to 1847 exceeded three lacs of rupees from this source. The Maharaja was unwilling to sacrifice the additional revenue and the nobles were averse to share additional burden. This dispute was, however, settled amicably on November 10, 1849. The Maharaja agreed to levy *Rekh* at eight per cent of the annual revenue of the *jagir*. In view of the undefined nature of this traditional demand this rate was considered moderate by the political officers.<sup>84</sup> But the relations between the Maharaja and his nobles did not improve. The Maharaja persisted in his policy of confiscations and unjust exactions on frivolous grounds.

Dishonest officers were appointed *hakims* and *kotwals*. They undertook to pay the Maharaja revenue double or treble of what he

81. For Pol. May 1, 1847 No. 34 (Sutherland's circular d. March 10).

82. Sutherland's Review of Jodhpur affairs d. Aug. 7, 1847, loc. cit.

83. For. Pol. July 10, 1847 No. 28 (Greaded to Sutherland d. April 7, 1847).

84. (i) For Pol. Nov. 14, 1851 No. 156 (Report on Jodhpur affairs from Malcolm d. Jan. 1).

(ii) RAOHR 251 File 81, Jodhpur Vol. II, 1854, pp. 45-51.

(iii) Hardayal Singh, op. cit., pp. 356-57.

(iv) Vyas, op. cit., pp. 187-92.

legitimately obtained.<sup>85</sup> The *thakurs* of Auwa, Asop, Pokran and others resented this policy of oppression. On their representation to the A.G.G., Low advised Takhat Singh to (i) pay heed to their grievances (ii) restore the confiscated villages (iii) remove corrupt *hakims* and (iv) obviate the necessity of intervention by the British government in the internal affairs of the state.<sup>86</sup> The *Maharaja* for a while restored some of the villages and removed a few *hakims*.<sup>87</sup> But it was all an eye wash. Mal-administration, sequestration of hereditary land, unjust exactions and retention of favourites continued. It caused sufferings to the nobles and in turn to the people. Eventually, in the beginning of 1857, the nobles made up their mind for armed resistance. Civil War and bloodshed looked imminent in the state. At this very time the widespread Uprising of 1857 broke out.

### Marwar and the Uprising of 1857

During this crisis Takhat Singh stood firmly by the paramount power. The Jodhpur State troops were summoned to Ajmer for the protection of the arsenal stationed there.<sup>88</sup> They were sent under Walter to chase mutineers from Nasirabad. They also traversed Jaipur territory in pursuit of Neemuch mutineers.<sup>89</sup> This pro-British involvement of the *Maharaja* gave a good opportunity to the refractory nobles among whom the wave of dissatisfaction against the British was more widespread than against the *Maharaja*. When the Jodhpur Legion rose in arms at Erinpura in August, 1857, the *thakur* of Auwa admitted its men into his fort and offered them service. The *thakurs* of Asop, Goolar, Alaniawas and Bajuwas went to Auwa with their men and might. Takhat Singh sent a contingent with a British officer against the rebels. The Raj troops were routed on September 8 at Bithoora 5 kms. away from Auwa. Their guns and military stores were captured by the rebels. A few days later Lawrence, A.G.G., himself marched against Auwa. He drove the enemy into the fort. While the action was in full swing, the Political Agent, Monck Mason, arrived at Auwa with a few

85. (i) Malcolm, Report on Jodhpur Affairs, loc. cit.

(ii) RAOHR 250 File 81 Jodhpur Vol. I, 1851.

(iii) Marwar Precs, p. 165.

(iv) RSAJ, *Basta* 41 Book 2, *Khyat-ri-Bahi*, p. 44.

(v) RSAJ, *Marwar-ki-khyat*, Vol. IV, p. 245.

86. RAOHR 250 File 81 Jodhpur, Vol. I, 1851 pp. 12-14.

87. For. Pol. Dec. 26, 1851 No. 354 (Hardcastle to Low d. August 20).

88. (i) For. Sec. A. Dec 18, 1857 No. 201-203 (Monck Mason to Takhat Singh, and Takhat Singh to Monck Mason d. May 25).

(ii) RSAJ, *Haqiqat Bahi* 18, pp. 366 and 372.

89. (i) For. Sec. A. June 9, 1857 No. 204 (Lawrence to Edmonstone No. 2 A).

(ii) RSAJ, *Haqiqat Bahi* 18, pp. 366 and 372.

(iii) Khadgawat, Rajastihan's Role in the Struggle of 1857, p. 39.

men. In the fierce engagement he was killed. His body was hung upon a tree opposite the gateway of Auwa.<sup>90</sup> In October, 1957, the rebellious legion marched towards Delhi. While the *thakurs* of Alaniawas and Goolar accompanied it to Narnol, the *Thakur* of Asop returned to defend his own *jagir*. A contingent of British troops numbering 1500 from Deesa (Palanpur) and Nasirabad attacked Auwa on January 20, 1858. The *Raj* army with the *thakurs* of Nimbaj and Ras joined it. The *thakur* of Auwa escaped to Mewar on March 23, but his men led by the *Thakur* of Lambia offered desperate resistance. On March 29, the guards were bribed and the fort was occupied by the British troops. They plundered the town mercilessly and brought about a complete destruction of the fort and the palace. The entire *jagir* of Auwa was confiscated by the *Maharaja*. Meanwhile, the fiefs of Asop, Goolar, Alaniawas and Bajuwas were also seized. The capture of Auwa by the British troops and the suppression of the Rising enabled Takhat Singh to inflict heavy punishments on the refractory nobles. The *Thakur* of Asop was interned in the fort of Jodhpur and the other rebel *thakurs* were declared outlaws. Their allies were also severely dealt with.<sup>91</sup> Defeated and crushed, the martyrs, who laid down their lives, did not, however, die in vain.<sup>92</sup> The first consequence of the uprising was the assumption of the Government of India by the British Crown. The Queen's Proclamation of November 1, 1858 assured the rulers their territories, rights and dignity. In 1861, Sanads acknowledging right to adoption were issued. Takhat Singh also received it and he was emboldened to persist in his policy of suppression.<sup>93</sup>

#### Undertaking for Better Administration (1869)

Normalcy was apparently restored in Marwar, but causes of friction between the *Maharaja* and his nobles had not been remov-

90. (i) RSAJ, *Basta* 45 Book 2 *Khyat-ri-Bahi*, pp. 97 and 105-07.

(ii) RSAJ, *Khritta Bahi* 18, p. 384-87 and 409.

(iii) RAOHR 66 File 34, p. 59.

(iv) Marwar Precs, pp. 168-69.

(v) Khadgawat, op. cit., pp. 39-46.

91. (i) RAOHR, File 84 Jodhpur old Vol. I, p. 83 (Lawrence Report).

(ii) RAOHR, 66 File 34 Mutiny, p. 14.

(iii) RAOHR, 252 File 81, Jodhpur Vol. III, 1857-59.

(iv) For. Sec. May 28, 1858, No. 382 (Lawrence to Edmonstone d. Feb. 1). and Morrison to Takhat Singh d. Feb. 12)

(v) RSAJ, *Huqikat Bahi* 1\*, pp. 392 and 409-11.

(vi) RSAJ, *Sanad Bahi* 127, p. 574.

(vii) Khadgawat, op. cit., pp. 51-52.

92. Khadgawat, op. cit., p. 53.

93. Majumdar, R.C. *British Paramountcy & Indian Renaissance*, Vol. IX, pp. 662 and 961-62.

ed. He continued to levy *Rekh*, *Hukamnana* and *Neota* arbitrarily.<sup>94</sup> The outlawed *thakurs* made predatory raids on *khalsa* villages and caused heavy losses of property. It indeed boded ill for the tranquillity of Marwar. The obstinacy of the *Maharaja* forced the nobles to give up all their differences and organise a united front against him. The wiser among them complained to the Governor-General against mal-administration and pointed out their specific grievances.<sup>95</sup> The restless among them began recovering their forts. Marwar was thus threatened with open rebellion. The outlawed *thakurs* seized their confiscated estates. The *Raj* troops evacuated them without resistance. Urgent instructions were issued to the A.G.G. to adopt effective measures for ending the every day confusion.<sup>96</sup>

Keatinge could persuade the *Maharaja* to announce on January 12, 1869 a ministry which would work directly under him. Its composition could not be changed without the consent of the paramount power and no instructions conveyed to it through palace servants. A sum of Rs. 15,00,000 was placed at its disposal for administration. The *Maharaja* undertook to manage *khalsa* land, exercise powers of judiciary in them through his ministers, cut down his household expenditure from Rs. 2,50,000 to Rs. 1,80,000 and keep the state accounts open to scrutiny. He would also make maintenance grants to his sons on the advice of the Political Agent who would consult a committee of *thakurs* and *mutasaddes* on the point. The decisions of the supreme government on the problems of *Hukamnana* and outlawed nobles were also made binding on the *Maharaja*. He was forbidden from interfering with the powers of the nobles and making land grants without the consent of the Political Agent.<sup>97</sup> Thus the ministry was protected and state revenues saved from being misused. The A.G.G. was em-

94. Pr. 22 and 29. *Neota* was money recovered from jagirdars on the marriage of the heir-apparent or the eldest princess.

94. (i) Pr. 59 (*Sardars* of Marwar to Lawrence d. Sept. 25) in For. Pol. A Dec. 1868 No. 56-60.

(ii) RAOHR 257 File 81, Jodhpur Vol. VII, 1868-69.

95. (i) Pr. 234 (Takhat Singh to Keatinge d. Nov. 22) in For. Pol. Dec. 1863 No. 233-38

(ii) RSAJ, *Basta* 43 Book 2 *Khyat-ki-Bahi*, p. 255.

96. For. Pol. A. April 1869 No. 112.

(i) Pr. 374 (Agreement between Takhat Singh and Keatinge d. Jan. 11) in For. Pol. A. Jan. 1869 No. 373-79.

(ii) Aitchison, Vol. III (1832), p. 117 and pp. 141-143 (No. IX).

(iii) Vyas, op. cit., pp. 155-58.

97. (i) Pr. 80 (Brooke to Keatinge No. 2812 p. d. April 26) in For. Pol. A. Nov. 1869 No. 77-83.

(ii) RAOHR 257 File 81 Jodhpur, Vol. VII, pp. 220 and 240-241.

(iii) Reu. Vol. II, p. 457-58, Footnote 4.

powered to adjudicate in matters beyond the powers of the ministry. At the same time the British government and its officers were kept aloof from the details of administration. The heir-apparent was awarded an annual maintenance of Rs. 1,00,000 and Godwad was made his headquarters. The grown-up princes were granted jagirs yielding Rs. 20,000 a year.<sup>98</sup>

#### Settlement of Hukamnama

The problems of *Hukamnama* was next taken up. It was a recognition fee payable by a *thakur* at the time of his succession to the *jagir*. No definite scale had ever been laid down. The amount varied with the capacity of the *jagirdar* to pay and the pressure of the *Raj* to bear on. Through the intercession of the Political Agent and the A.G.G. rules determining the rates of *Hukamnama* were framed and adopted in 1869. It was fixed at three-fourths of the annual scheduled income of the village. In case of succession by a direct descendant the demand of *Rekh* for that year was remitted, but in case of collateral it was charged. In either case, the successor was freed from the obligation of *Chakri i e.* service of horsemen and footmen for the year. In case of two successions within a year from the preceding succession, only one *Hukamnama* could be levied. In case of two years only one and a half times was levied. If any *thakur* yet considered the *Hukamanama* too heavy, the state could occupy his estate and realise the gross revenue for one year. The *thakur* could that year be liable to pay neither *Rekh* nor *Chakri*. *Thakurs* were prohibited from levying *Jageerat\** on the *ryot* and recouping the *Hukamnama* or a portion thereof from kinsmen and dependants, who were subject to pay *Hukamnama* in respect of their own estates. The surcharge of *teerotra\** together

98. (i) Pr. 77 (Keatinge to Karr No. 115 P., d. July 5) in For. Pol. A Nov. 1869 No. 77-83.

(ii) RSAJ, *S nad Bant*, No 71 p 76

(iii) Hardayal Singh, op. cit., p. 443-46.

(iv) Aitchison, op. cit., pp 144-45 (Annexure to No 11)

(v) Vyas, op. cit., 159-62

\* *Teerotra* was a surcharge of 3% on the *Hukamnama* levied to increase the revenue. Besides it, the usual fee included :

(a)	1. <i>Kabuliat</i> Rs. 1.25	} on Rs. 1000	1 <i>Rekh</i>
	2. <i>Parkhi</i> Rs. 1.00		
	3. <i>Thikana</i> Rs. 1.25		

(b) Miscellaneous rates on issue of the *Patta* (grant)

1.	<i>Bakshi</i>	Rs. 2 on Rs. 1000 of <i>Rekh</i> .
2.	<i>Bakshi Navees</i>	half a rupee, each village.
3.	<i>Chauki Navees</i> (3)	Rs. 1.50 on Rs. 1000 of <i>Rekh</i> .
4.	<i>Diwan</i>	Rs. 2 on Rs. 1000 of <i>Rekh</i> .
5.	<i>Moharana Dhabhai</i>	Rs. 1.12 per seal.
6.	<i>Moharana Navees</i>	Rs. 2 each grant.
7.	<i>Musahib</i>	Rs. 2.25 on Rs. 1 00 of <i>Rekh</i>
8.	<i>Patta Navees</i>	Rs. 1 on each village grant.
9.	<i>Pradhan</i>	Rs. 1
10.	<i>Raj Dastri</i>	Rs. 1

} on Rs. 1000 of *Rekh*

with traditional charges on *Hukamnama* was retained, but it could not exceed 5% in aggregate.<sup>99</sup>

### Restoration of Estates

After a thorough enquiry Col. Brooke, Political Agent, recommended that the outlawed *thakurs* of Auwa, Goolar, Alaniawas and Bajuwas should get one-half, two-third, five-sixth and two-third of their respective estates. The *Thakur* of Asop was to receive the whole of his original estate excluding six and a half villages. The award was forwarded to the *Maharaja* for implementation, after approval by the A.G.G. He delayed and let the matter linger on till the end of 1871. The *thakurs* were already in possession of their estates. They had with them the sympathy of other *thakurs* and neighbouring princes.<sup>100</sup> Besides, the Political Agent acted as a mediator between the *Maharaja* and his principal nobles and some of the minor feudatories.<sup>101</sup> An extradition treaty was also concluded with the British government for the exchange of criminal offenders.<sup>102</sup>

### Aversion of Crisis

Thus the agents of the paramount power did all that could aid the *Maharaja* and strengthen his administration. But he himself did little. That way the engagement of 1868 proved inoperative. The *Diwan*, whom the *Maharaja* had nominated, was unpopular. He continued issuing orders through *zenana* favourities. The courts hardly functioned and no distinction was made between state and private expenditure.<sup>103</sup> Active interference was again the only way out, but the A.G.G. did not suggest it because of the approaching negotiations for the salt marts of Gudha, Nawa and Sambhar.<sup>104</sup> They were leased to the British government in 1870.<sup>105</sup> A few months later in October, 1870 at

99. (i) Pr. 83 (Takhat Singh to Brooke d. May 14) in For. Pol. Nov. 1869, No. 77-83.

(ii) Aitchison, op. cit., p. 142.

(iii) Vyas, op. cit., pp. 60-61.

101. (i) RAOHR 257 File 81 Jodhpur Vol. VII, 1868-69, pp. 201 and 218.

(ii) RAOHR 285 File 81 Jodhpur Vol. VIII, 1870-73, p. 280.

100. Pr. 78 (Brooke to Keatinge No. 193 d. April 3) in For. Pol. Nov. 1869 No. 77-83.

102. (i) Pr. 257 (Keatinge to Karr No. 333 p. d. Aug. 7) in For. Pol. A Sept. 1868 No. 228-61.

(ii) Aitchison, op. cit., pp. 117 and 139-41 (No. X).

103. (i) ARS (1870-71), MAR with special reference to paras 26, 27, 31, 33 and 38.

(ii) Pr. 93 (Brooke to Aitchison d. March 28) in For. Pol. A June, 1870 No. 92-3.

104. Pr. 415 (Keatinge to Aitchison No. 45 p. d. Feb. 17) in For. Pol. A, May, 1870 No. 413-22.

105. (i) Pr. 330 (Keatinge to Aitchison d. 232 P. Nov. 25) in For. Pol. A, May, 1870 327-83.

(ii) See Appendices 3(i) and (ii).



Mayo Darbar in Ajmer there was an unfortunate dispute about precedence with the *Maharaja* of Udaipur and Takhat Singh declined to attend it. In vain, did the Political Agent and the heir-apparent son remonstrate with him.<sup>106</sup> The following year, owing to the disorganised and disturbed condition of the Jalore district, which bordered Sirohi, the *Darbar* was required to entrust the police arrangements of the entire border to the Political Superintendent, Sirohi and place a band of troops at his disposal.<sup>107</sup>

In the meanwhile when reports on the mal-administration reached the Foreign Department, the problems of salt treaties was kept quite apart. The paramount power would otherwise be accused of tolerating evils when it suited its interests.<sup>108</sup> At last the Political Agent pointed out three possible courses :

1. To withdraw the British support from the *Maharaja* and allow the contending parties to fight among themselves.
2. To depose the *Maharaja* in favour of his son.
3. To administer the state under British superintendence.

The first alternative would have led to anarchy and bloodshed. The second would have merely substituted the heir-apparent for the *Maharaja*, who had ruled for twenty six years. The third course, to which *Maharaja* had given his assent, could excite the suspicion of other chiefs.<sup>109</sup>

Before any decision could be arrived at, events took a convenient turn. The need for active interference disappeared. On the advice of the Political Agent the *Maharaja* committed to a council of *thakurs* and civil administrators the task of deciding claims to villages confiscated by him since his accession.<sup>110</sup> This council awarded thirty three villages to the state and twenty one to the *thakurs*. Five were left for the arbitration of the Political Agent. Disputed claims of a few more villages were likely to be settled.<sup>111</sup>

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106. Pr. 424 (Aitchison to the Duke of Argyll No. 1 A d. Oct. 30) in For. Pol. A. 1870 No. 425-34.
107. (i) For. Pol. A. July 1871 No. 390-14.  
 (ii) For. Pol. A. Jan. 1872 No. 4.  
 (iii) Aitchison, op. cit., p. 119.  
 (iv) Reu, op. cit., p. 459.
108. Keepwiths to For. Pol. A. May, 1870 No. 413-422.
109. Keepwiths to For. Pol. A. April, 1872 No. 49-67 (Marwar Affairs).
110. Pr. 58 (Jaswant Singh to Impey d. Jan. 15) in For. Pol. A. April, 1872 No. 49-66.
111. (i) Pr. 725 (Decision of the Council d. April 8) and No. 726 (Impey to Takhat Singh d. May 13) in For. Pol. A. June 1872 Nos. 723-27.

### Rebellion of Zorawar Singh :

This good work was interrupted by the rebellion of the *Maharaja's* second son Zorawar Singh in June, 1872. He claimed the *Gaddi* of Marwar on the plea that he was the first son born to the *Maharaja* after his accession to Jodhpur and that his elder brother had been adopted to Ahmadnagar. He seized Nagaur by force of arms. The revolt was put down and Zorawar Singh was granted a jagir of Rs. 25,000 and sent to Ajmer.<sup>112</sup>

This rebellion convinced the *Maharaja* of his own incapacity to direct the administration any longer. He made it over to the heir-apparent subject to his own control.<sup>113</sup> By age, character and experience the young prince was fit enough to restore order in the state but the authority vested in him was limited. The paramount power wanted to have an understanding with Takhat Singh on the point. But the need disappeared with his death on February 12, 1873. His successor completed the remedial work more than half already done. Thus, the ground was prepared for restoration and reform of administration and introduction of measures of economic unity and public welfare.

112. (i) Pr. 502 (GI to SSG No. 250 d. Dec 27) in *För. Pol. A. Déc.* 1872.  
 (ii) RSAJ, *Basta* 43 Book 2, *Khyat-ri-Bahi*, pp. 256-57.  
 (iii) RSAJ, *Huqikat Bahi* 2, pp. 534 and 793.  
 (iv) RAOHR 265 File 142, Jodhpur Vol. I, pp. 17-25 & Vol. II, pp. 136-38.  
 (v) RAOHR 267 File 142, Jodhpur Vol. II, pp. 18-21.
113. (i) Pr. 500 (Takhat Singh to Impey d. Oct. 27), loc. cit.  
 (ii) RAOHR 258 File 81 Jodhpur Vol. VIII, pp. 274, 275, 277 and 278.  
 (iii) RSAJ, *Basta* 43 Book 2, *Khyat-ri-Bahi*, p. 258.  
 (iv) RSAJ, *Basta* 43 Book 2, *Khyat-ri-Bahi*, p. 255.

# RESTORATION AND REFORM (1873-1895)

### Disorganised Administration

When Jaswant Singh II ascended the *Gaddi* of Marwar on March 1, 1873, most of the feudal problems had been settled. The nobles and the country at large had confidence in him and he followed the advice of the British officers. But the administration was yet disorganised, weak and effete. It was neither feared nor respected. Marwar was without order and security. Courts were a farce. They did not and could not enforce obedience. Crimes were hushed up or condoned. False accusations were trumped up and all means of exaction resorted to. The highways and byways all over the state were unsafe for travellers. The *pargana hakims* disregarded the authority of the ministry and submitted no accounts. Many of them remained at the capital and deputed some of their relations and dependants to carry on their work. The ministers also delegated their duties to inferiors. The state was in heavy debt. Its revenues were diverted to private coffers. Troops and employees always remained unpaid. Women and eunuchs had been the channels of communication with the late *Maharaja*, whose freaks and frailties had rendered confusion worse confounded. It afforded easy opportunities to the nobility to become irresponsible in their estates and to the officials for intrigue.<sup>1</sup> Besides, Takhat Singh left a large family with conflicting interests. His sons were addicted to sensual vices. They committed gross excesses and were a terror to the people.<sup>2</sup> Jaswant Singh had to restore a strong and just administration. He had for this task the support of the paramount power beside his own vigour and determination to face powerful nobles, intriguing officials and an unruly family.

### Provision for Takhat Singh's Dependants

The first and the foremost problem, which Jaswant Singh had to solve, was to make provision for his father's

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1. (i) A.R.S. (1870-71), Marwar Agency Report, paras 19, 22, 23 and 26-28, pp. 114-16 and 120.  
(ii) Pr 93 (Brooke to Aitchison d. March 28) in For. Pol. A June, 1970 No 92-3.  
(iii) For. Pol April, 1873, No. 131-32.
  - 2 ARS (1865-67), Marwar Agency Report, paras 515-16.

large family. It consisted of (i) twenty seven *ranis* and their ten sons and three unmarried daughters; (ii) thirteen *pardaets* and their ten sons and two unmarried daughters and (iii) seventeen slave girls.<sup>3</sup> The yearly expenditure on this family at the time of Takhat Singh's death amounted to Rs. 6,62,000, more than a fourth of the annual income of the state. Only Rs. 2,45,000 were spent on the household of Raja Man. Yet many of the *ranis* and *pardaets* of Takhat Singh had no estate at all.<sup>4</sup>

Ten days before death Takhat Singh had given his will to the Political Agent.<sup>5</sup> The proposed provision was double of what the state could afford. The new *Maharaja*, therefore, entrusted the task to a committee of six *thakurs* and five *muttsaddis* with the Political Agent as its president.<sup>6</sup> It was also asked to propose provision for his own family. The committee discovered that the state finances were at a very low ebb. The expenditure exceeded the revenue by Rs. 1,00,000 and debts amounting to Rs. 25,00,000 were outstanding against the state. Besides, contributions for the construction of the Mayo College and the Marwar part of Ahmedabad Agra road were yet to be paid. It was, therefore, decided to cut down the grants of the widows.

The annual maintenance of Jaswant Singh's mother was reduced from Rs. 1,13 000 to Rs. 40,000, and that of the other *ranis* to Rs. 8000/10,000. A saving of Rs. 1,15,000 was thus made and the other twelve *ranis*, for whom no dower had been earlier provided for, were given an annual grant of Rs. 4,800 each.

The new *Maharaja's jagir* of Rs. 1,00,000 reverted to the state. In consideration of his father's wishes Zorawar Singh was given a *jagir* of Rs. 25,000. All the other legitimate sons were allowed *jagirs* worth Rs. 20,000 each. The annual grant of the *pardaets* was fixed at Rs. 1,500 each. Favour was shown to Takhat Singh's favourite *pardaet* Magrajee and to her an annual grant of Rs. 7,200 was made. Each of the sons born of *pardaets* was awarded a *jagir* of a yearly income of Rs 6,000<sup>8</sup>. An annual grant of Rs 88 500 was earmarked for the *ranis* and *pardaets* of the new *Maharaja*. The chief *rani* was given a *jagir* of

3. (i) Pr. 261 (AGG to Secy. For. d. May 13, 1873) in For. Pol. A July, 1873 No. 265-304.

(ii) Hardayal Singh, op. cit., paras 63, 82 and 83, pp. 185 and 246-48.

4. Pr. 269 (P. A. to AGG d. April 12, 1873), loc. cit.

5. Ibid.

6. Pr. 270 (Jaswant Singh to Walter d. March, 17, 1873), loc. cit.

7. Pr. 269 (P. A. to AGG d. April 12, 1873), loc. cit.

8. Pr. 271 (Walter to Jaswant Singh d. March 24, 1873), loc. cit.

Rs. 30,000, two *ranis* Rs. 10,000 each, and four worth Rs. 7000 each. Each of the seven *pardaets* was awarded an annual maintenance of Rs. 1,500<sup>9</sup>.

Considering the poor finances of the state the provision for Takhat Singh's dependants was liberal, but it angered some of the *ranis*<sup>10</sup>. Their grievances were baseless. They had been provided for more generously than the Maharaja's *ranis*. Their needs henceforth would be smaller than what they were earlier. During the life time of their husband they had enjoyed *jagirs* of a much larger revenue than those given to any other dependant of the *Darbar*. Had they been continued, it would have been impossible to place the finances of the state on a sound footing, and liquidate its debts<sup>11</sup>.

Like the *ranis* the *pardaets* headed by the favourite Magrajee refused to accept the maintenance. Her son revolted. He had the support of his brethren and discontented officials. The rebellion was put down with the help of the Political Agent and the A.G.G.<sup>12</sup>

At this stage it was discovered that the annual deficit of the state came to Rs. 4,00,000 instead of Rs. 1,00,000. The financial affairs of the state were not within the purview of the committee. But the Political Agent considered it his duty to assist the chief in such a difficult situation<sup>13</sup>. A sum of twenty four lacs of rupees was outstanding against the *thakurs* on account of arrears of *Rekh* and *Hukamnama* and non-recovery of compensation which had been paid to sufferers from robbery<sup>13</sup>. The Political Agent appealed to the *thakurs*, who had assembled at Jodhpur, to help their chief in bringing about a system of good administration. They agreed to pay off arrears by annual instalments of two lacs of rupees. Half the deficit was to be made up by retrenchment and the balance by the revenues of the villages likely to be resumed<sup>14</sup>.

The weak financial condition of the state brought to the forefront the question whether sons of *pardaets* should be allowed to adopt heirs. *Raja* Man had left seven such sons and they all enjoyed rich estates. Takhat Singh left ten such. If adoption by them was not banned, expenditure on account of these particular

9. Pr. 271 (Walter to Jaswant Singh d. March, 1873), loc. cit.

10. (i) Pr. 288 (Private Secy. to Maharaja to PA d. June 4, 1873), loc. cit.

(ii) For. Pol. B December 1873 No. 147-48 (Ranis of Jodhpur to Col. Pelly).

11. Pr. 271 (Walter to Jaswant Singh d. March 24, 1873), loc. cit.

12. (i) Pr. 287 (PA to AGG No. 105-2 P. d. June 11, 1873), loc. cit.

(ii) Keepwiths to For. Pol. A March, 1874 No. 270-77.

13. Pr. 269 (PA to AGG No. 63 18 P. d. April 12) in For. Pol. A July 1873 No. 265-304.

14. Pr. 261 (AGG to Secy. For. No. 268 P. d. May 13, 1873), loc. cit.

members could never diminish. It was decided by the committee that adoption by descendants of *pardaets* should be prohibited. It had already been put a stop to in Jaipur State<sup>15</sup>.

### Settlement of disputed villages

All pending cases of disputed villages were also disposed of. Of the five villages kept for the arbitration of the Political Agent, four were awarded by Walter to the *Darbar* and one to the *thakurs*.<sup>16</sup> There were twenty seven additional disputed villages. Their cases had not been taken up by the late *Maharaja*. On the advice of the A.G.G. and the Political Agent they were entrusted to another committee. Twenty four villages were declared by it to be the property of the state.<sup>17</sup> Thirdly, the outlawed *thakurs* of Auwa, Goolar and Alaniawas were advised to give up the villages, which had been awarded to the *Darbar*, and not to defy its authority. This they did. Thus closed an era of feudal defiance which at one time had threatened the whole of Marwar with anarchy and rebellion, and now began the seed time for the foundation of good administration.

### Restoration of the Police Administration of Jalore

Because of its disturbed condition the district of Jalore, which bordered on Sirohi State, had been placed in 1871 under Political Superintendent of Sirohi for three years.<sup>18</sup> The adoption of stern measures secured peace and order in the district, where gang robbery and other serious crimes had been frequent. The Political Agent wanted the continuance of the arrangement, but it would have reflected adversely upon the *Maharaja* and his rule which had well begun.<sup>19</sup> The police administration of Jalore was, therefore, restored to Marwar *Darbar*. The police of both Marwar and Sirohi could follow up criminals in either state.<sup>20</sup>

### Earliest Measures of Reform

The earliest measures of reform adopted by Jaswant Singh included the establishment of *Mehkma Khas* for general adminis-

15. (i) No. 323 (*Kaifiat* from Marwar Vakil to P. A. d. April 4) in For. Pol. A June, 1873 No. 319-29.

16. (i) Pr. 321 (Walter to Jaswant Singh d. April 10) in For. Pol. A June, 1873 319-29.

(ii) ut supra, p. 30.

17. Pr. 923 (*Kaifiat* from Marwar Vakil to P. A. d. April 4) and No. 324 (Copy of settlement d. March 31), loc. cit.

18. (i) For. Pol. A July 1871 No. 390-414.

(ii) For. Pol. A Jan. 1872 No. 4.

(iii) Reu, op. cit., Vol. II, p. 465.

19. Keepwiths to For. Pol. May 1874, Nos. 103-08.

20. Reu, op. cit., Vol. II, p. 465.

tration and supervision of the state.<sup>21</sup> the abolition of the tradition of oral orders, reorientation of courts with gradation of powers, hearing of appeals by the *Maharaja* himself, institution of supplementary courts to dispose of arrears, introduction of rules to suppress the predatory character of the *Baorees* and rehabilitate them by the grant of land on easy terms and efforts to check dacoities.<sup>22</sup> In consequence, crime decreased and affairs in Marwar began to improve. Attention was also paid to education. Besides, the *Maharaja* thought of a regular land revenue survey and settlement and some system of excise.

### Closer Contact with the Paramount Power

Northbrooke visited Jodhpur with the A.G.G. and the Foreign Secretary in 1875. On this occasion of the first visit of the Governor-General of India all the nobles with their retinue were summoned to Jodhpur, which was profusely illuminated.<sup>23</sup> In December of the same year the *Maharaja* went to Calcutta where the Prince of Wales decorated him with the honour of G.C.S.I. (Grand Commander of the Star of India).<sup>24</sup> On January 1, 1877 he attended the Delhi *Darbar* where Queen Victoria was proclaimed the Empress of India. For Marwar this assemblage was marked by the increase of the personal salute of the *Maharaja* from seventeen to nineteen guns, award of titles to three of his nobles and two of his *Mutsaddis* and the restoration of friendly relations with the *Maharaja*.<sup>25</sup> These visits and awards revived among the elite of Marwar a sense of affinity with the paramount power of *Mughal* days, widened their outlook and thus created an atmosphere conducive to reform and modernisation.

Financial embarrassment had stood in the way of reform. The liberal provision made for Takhat Singh's family had unduly saddled the budget. A large sum as arrears was also due to his troops. Besides, the state was heavily in debt. Unless these difficulties were overcome, the problem of reform could not be taken in

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21. In 1873 Mehkma Khas was styled Mehkma Musahibat, in 1876. It came to be known as Mehkma Al'a and in 1878 Mehkma Alia Prime Minister. Finally it bore the style of Mehkma Khas.
  22. (i) PA to AGG No 85/36 J d. May 12 in For. B Sept. 1873 No. 40-47.  
 (ii) Hardayal Singh, op. cit., pp. 668, 678 and 690.  
 (iii) ARS (1874-75), Marwar Agency Report, paras 5, 6, 28 and 29, pp. 98-9.  
 (iv) ARS (1875-76), Marwar Agency Report, paras 17, pp. 85-7.  
 (v) Reu, op cit., pp. 463-65.
  23. ARS (1875-76), Marwar Agency Report, paras 6 to 9, pp. 84-5.
  24. Ibid., paras 11-2, p. 85.
  25. (i) *Thakurs* of Kuchaman, Khairwa and Pokran, (*Rao Bahadur*); *Diwan* Vijaimal (*Rai Bahadur*) and *Munshi* Faizulla Khan (*Khan Bahadur*).  
 (ii) ARS (1876-77), Marwar Agency Report, paras 5-6.

hand. The *Maharaja* asked the A.G.G. for a loan of Rs. 24,00,000 from the supreme government.<sup>26</sup> Under the terms of the salt treaties Marwar received annually in addition to some royalty, Rs. 3,00,000 in respect of Gudha, Nawa and Sambhar Salt Works. It was proposed to surrender this annuity to the British government till the loan was paid off with 5% interest <sup>27</sup>

Just at this time the Government of India was thinking of abolishing the preventive salt line between the British territory and the princely states. For this purpose it wanted to take possession of all the salt sources of Marwar, suppress manufacture of salt elsewhere and impose tax at the source of production <sup>28</sup> The difficulties of Jodhpur, which was a financially weak and outlying state, afforded an opportunity for the execution of this policy. Besides, the security offered by Jodhpur was sound. The government, therefore, sounded the *Maharaja*. At first he resisted vehemently. Most of the salt sources were in the heart of the state. Their occupation by the British would tell upon his independence and reputation among his feudatories and neighbours.<sup>29</sup> At last an accord was reached to make over to the government the control of all the salt works in the hope of a fair deal.<sup>30</sup> The loan was advanced in August, 1876 and an agreement for the assumption of control over the salt works by the paramount power was also concluded on January 18, 1879.<sup>32</sup> The one-sided character of the salt treaties is dealt with in the last chapter.

### Removal of obstructions

For the reform of administration the *Maharaja* summoned his younger brother Pratap Singh from Jaipur, where he had been schooled in administration by his brother-in-law, Ram Singh, the enlightened ruler of that state. He had also effectively served Jaswant Singh during his father's time in purging Godwad from lawless elements. Pratap Singh was made the Prime Minister of the state, and later designated *Musahib Ala*. But little was achieved till 1881. A grain and fodder famine of unusual severity overtook Mar-

26. Pr 94 (Jaswant Singh to A.C. Lyall, AGG d. July 11, 1875) in For. Sec. Nov. 1875 Nos. 96-104.

27. Keepwith I (Agent to Secy. For. d. May 4, 1875), loc. cit.

28. Keepwith 2 (Secy. For. to AGG d. May 12, 1875), loc. cit.

29. Keepwith 3 (AGG to Secy. For. d. July 1, 1875) loc. cit.

30. Ib d.

31. ARS (18 5-76), Marwar Agency Report, para, 4, p. 84.

32. (i) For. Pol. B March 1880 No. 521-23.

(ii) For. Pol. A April 1880 No. 191-93.

(iii) RSAJ, *Sau d Bahi* 148, pp. 115-16.

(iv) Hardayal Singh, op. cit., para 81, pp. 239-45.

(v) Aitchison, op. cit., pp. 119 and 156-64 (No. XV).



war in 1877-78 and shattered its economy. Jaswant Singh had also appointed his other brother Kishore Singh as Commander-in-Chief. To the hereditary nobles the employment of the *Maharaja's* brothers appeared to be an infringement of their rights and dignity. They made a common cause with the corrupt officials, who were already infuriated at the reforms and discipline introduced during the first five years of Jaswant Singh's reign. Consequently, factional intrigues revived. At times a clique of persons with low tastes and low morals gained the upper hand and diverted the resources of the state into wrong and wasteful channels.<sup>33</sup> At such an inopportune time, in October 1879, the political charge of Marwar and Jaisalmer was amalgamated with the command of Erinpura Irregular Force and the political superintendency of Sirohi with headquarters at Erinpura.<sup>34</sup> Worse still, Powlett, Political Agent, who had shown will and ability to set the administration in order, went on furlough and he was succeeded by Tweedie, who could scarcely cope with the situation.<sup>35</sup>

In spite of these handicaps attempts were made to uproot the gangs of marauders, reduce expenditure and pay off debts.<sup>36</sup> But in the absence of a firm British officer on the spot the ground thus gained was likely to be lost in no time. The paramount power at once realised that the political charge of the states of Western Rajasthan must be separated from the command of the Erinpura Force. This was done in December, 1881 and the following year 'Western Rajputana Residency' came into being with headquarters at Jodhpur.<sup>37</sup> Powlett had already resumed his charge.

This notable reversion synchronised with the visit of Swami Dayanand, the apostle of socio-political regeneration of India, to Jodhpur. Unlike the young rulers of Udaipur and Shahpura the

33. (i) Pr. 81 (RWRS to AGG No. 92-70 G. d. Sept. 18) in For. Gen. A Oct, 1877

(ii) Hardayal Singh, op. cit., paras 38-39, 81 and 92, pp. 198, 261-62.

(iii) Van Wart, Sir Partap Singh, pp. 52, 54 and 66

(iv) Gehlot, J.S., Marwar State (Historical and Descriptive), pp. 216-17.

(v) Rev, op. cit., Vol. II, 463 and 466.

34. (i) For. Pol. A. Jan. 1880 No 294-95.

(ii) For. Gen. A. May 1881 No. 5 (Govt. of India to Secy. of State for India d. May 15 1881).

(iii) Erskine, op. cit., Vol. III B, p. 3.

35. (i) Keepwiths to For. A. Pol. 1 Br. Consultation Sept. 1882 No. 300.

(ii) Erskine, op. cit., Vol. III R, p. 3.

36. For. Pol. A Pr. Sept. 1882 No. 300 (Walter to Secy. No. 33 M. d. Aug. 29, 1881).

37. (i) Pr. 32 (Rideway to Walter No. 803 G.G. d. May 17) in For. Gen. A. Sept 1882 Nos 28-32.

(ii) Adams, A., The Western Rajputana States, pp. 54-5.

middle aged Jaswant Singh could not feel inspired by the personality and ideals of the Swami. He, however, awakened Pratap and some other nobles to a sense of duty. This awakening brought about a changed atmosphere in the court life of Jodhpur.<sup>38</sup> On the ground thus prepared Sir Pratap guided by Powlett embarked on the full tide of reform of administration and the first to attract his notice were the judiciary and the police.

### Judicial Reorganisation

The indigenous system of law and justice in Marwar was based on (1) local customs and usages; (2) assistance of *panchayats*—*Maqbula Panchayat* (voluntarily accepted), *Sultani Padchayat* (imposed) and *Nyati Panchayat* (Caste); (3) administration of oath *Gadiri-Aan*, *Aaiji-ri-Aan*, *Vankal Pivni* and *Gangajali/Kalpasutra/Quran Uthavani* and (4) trial by ordeal (*Sat Pariksa*).<sup>39</sup> Consequent upon *Maratha* invasions and internal disorders even this rough and ready system disintegrated and judiciary became ineffective.<sup>40</sup>

In the time of Man Singh, ordinary cases at the capital were tried by a bench of four judges. Having reported the issue to the *Maharaja*, they acted according to his instructions. For serious cases four other persons, viz. the *Diwan*, the *Vakil*, the *Bakshi* and one more official were associated with them. Cases in towns were decided by the *Kotwal*, and the *Munshrif* and in the *parganas* by the *Hakim* and the *Karkun*. The procedure in all these courts was very primitive and powers were exercised arbitrarily in settling cases.<sup>41</sup> The *Hakim*, who looked after the entire administration of a *pargana*, was too busy to serve the ends of justice. Appeals against his decisions were heard by the *Diwan* and also by the ruler.

Under the advice of Sutherland original civil and criminal courts had been set up at Jodhpur in 1839 and a court of appeal four years hence.<sup>42</sup> The same year the *Adalat Kshatdarshan* was established to hear cases in which *Charans*, *Brahmans* and *Purohits* were involved. A few years later a set of rules was introduced. One of them levied court fee @ 25% on the amount

38. (i) RSAJ, *Haqiqat Bahi* 31, p. 333.

(ii) Jordens, J.T.F., Dayanand Sarasvati—His Life and Ideals, pp. 236-40.

39. (i) Tod, op. cit., Vol. II (1894), pp. 132-3.

(ii) Marwar Precs, p. 112.

(iii) Erskine, op. cit., Vol. III A, Chap. XI, p. 132.

40. (i) "The administration of Justice is...now very lax... since the death of Vijaisingh the judgment seat has been vacant," Tod, op. cit., Vol. II, pp. 132-33.

41. (i) Marwar Precs, p. 112.

(ii) Erskine, op. cit., Chap. XI, p. 133.

42. (i) Marwar Precs, pp. 80-1 and 102-05.

(ii) Hardayal Singh, op. cit., pp. 665, 675 and 687-8.

recovered by the creditor.<sup>43</sup> A beginning had thus been made in the right direction, but for many years there was hardly any serious administration of civil justice. Courts were inefficient and inattentive. The proceedings of a case were not recorded. The arm of law would not reach an offender even when crime had been proved against him, if he belonged to a privileged class or sought shelter in some temple, village or city mansion of one of the powerful nobles. Capital punishment was rarely awarded. *Jagirdars* were turbulent. Conditions in *jagir* areas were even worse. On the one hand *jagirdars themselves* did very little and were mostly unjust and on the other hand they resented any interference by the *Darbar*. During such misrule the principle of might being right determined the issue<sup>44</sup>.

Jaswant Singh took steps to remove these forces of internal disorder by the revival of old courts, creation of new ones and introduction of statutory laws<sup>45</sup>. The *Diwani* and the *Faujdari Adalat*, which had become defunct during the anarchy of the earlier period, were reorganized. The *Sadar Diwani Adalat* heard all cases, in which the amount claimed exceeded Rs. 300, and disposed of appeals from the Subordinate Civil Court, which had been founded in 1874 to adjudicate in cases involving an amount less than Rs. 300. The *Sadar Faujdari Adalat* disposed of criminal cases where murder and other crimes of a heinous nature had been committed. It merely made the investigations and submitted the case for the Maharaja's orders. This court also heard appeals against the subordinate criminal courts, which tried petty criminal cases and had power to pass a sentence of three months' imprisonment. The Appellate Court, which had been set up in 1844, did not function so long. Appeals from the civil and criminal courts began to be heard by the *Maharaja* from April 17, 1878<sup>47</sup>

Besides these tribunals there were three more tribunals at the capital : (1) *Mehkma Musahibut* (2) *Khas Mehkma* and (3) *Adalat Mukadmat*. The *Mehkma Musahibut* set up in May, 1874 took cognizance of and after enquiry submitted to the *Maharaja*,

43. Hardayal Singh, op. cit., p. 665.

44. Ibid., p. 666.

45. (i) RAOHR 257 File 81 Jodhpur Vol. VII (1868-69).

(ii) ARS (1875-76), Marwar Agency Report, para 17, p. 86.

(iii) Hardayal Singh, op. cit., para 93-(3), pp. 264, 666, 670 and 678.

(iv) Erskine, op. cit., Vol. III A, Chap. XI, p. 138.

46. Ibid., p. 133.

47. (i) ARS (1875-76), Marwar Agency Report, paras 17 to 20 and 23, pp. 86 and 87.

(ii) Hardayal Singh, op. cit., pp. 668, 677-78 and 690.

(iii) Reu, op. cit., Vol. II, p. 455.

all petitions intended for him. The *Khas Mehkma* alternately known as special tribunal dealt with revenue and all other cases against *Darbar* officials particularly *hakims* who were in charge of *pargana* courts. Formerly, the *Hakim* had unlimited judicial powers. In 1874, his criminal jurisdiction was transferred to the *Sadar Faujdari Adalat* and the civil jurisdiction restricted to Rs. 1,000. The court called *Adalat Mukadmat* was empowered to recover the amount of awards declared against the *Darbar* subjects by the Marwar Court of *Vukils* in interstatal cases of robbery.<sup>48</sup> A few regulations for the guidance of lower courts were also issued in 1874. The old rate of court fees was revised to 6.25, 12.5, 18.75 and 25% on the amount recovered in execution of a decree according as the original suit was brought within five, ten, fifteen and thirty years respectively from the date of the bond or that of the last payment. A year later this rule was amended by reducing the period of limitation to twenty years.<sup>49</sup>

Apparently these *Darbar* courts indicated progress, but the scheme did not make much headway. Competent persons were few and far between. Introduction of Persian as a court language in 1874 worsened the situation.<sup>50</sup> Work was heavily in arrears. *Sardars* were unruly. The removal of the Agency from Jodhpur to Erinpura rendered them turbulent and defiant. In fine, chaos and confusion prevailed.

As soon as Powlett returned and the Western Rajputana States Agency was shifted from Erinpura to Jodhpur, attempts were made by the *Maharaja* to reform the existing courts and create new ones.<sup>51</sup> *Munshi Makhdumbaksh* from Alwar was appointed *Faujdar (magistrate)* in charge of *Sadar Faujdari Adalat* from April, 1882. He found 3746 cases pending and 1893 were brought on the file during the year. 2774 of the old ones and 850 new were settled. His work was inspected by Powlett with the help of Hewson, Assistant Resident, and it was found to be a definite improvement on what usually passed as current in Marwar.<sup>52</sup> Many beneficial

48. (i) ARS (1875-76), Marwar Agency Report, paras 22, 24 and 25, p. 87.

(ii) Hardayal Singh, op. cit., pp. 262, 723-24 and 727.

49. (i) Ibid., pp. 635-36 and 668.

(ii) Erskine, op., cit., Vol. III A, Chap. XI, p. 113.

50. Hardayal Singh, op. cit., p. 307.

51. (i) For. Pol. Despatch 5 to the Secy. of State d. May 15, 1881.

(ii) For. Pol. A No. 300 Sept. 1882, and keepwiths to it.

(iii) ARS (1881-82), Marwar Agency Report, para II, p. 119.

(iv) ARS (1882-83), op. cit., para 19, p. 112.

52. (i) ARS (1882-83), op. cit., para 20, pp. 112-13.

(ii) Hardayal Singh, op. cit., para 322, pp. 678-80.

reforms were introduced into the working system of the criminal courts. The pernicious system of giving shelter to criminals was wiped out.<sup>53</sup> Improvement was also made in the mode of keeping records. Hindi was restored as a court language.<sup>54</sup> The civil judge was assisted in his work by a committee of ten persons, but there were factional intrigues. So it was done away with.<sup>55</sup>

Jaswant Singh had entrusted the charge of the Appellate Court to the *Musahib Ala* in February, 1879. *Mehkma Musahibut* (council) was henceforth the Court of Appeal. Because of its other duties delay was caused in the settlement of cases. So an independent court of appeal was established with Kaviraj Muraridan as its judge from April 1882.<sup>56</sup>

These tribunals could not command the obedience of the *jagirdars*. Owing to false sense of dignity they refused to appear in them along with the common people. To solve the problem the Court of Sardars was established on July 13, 1882.<sup>57</sup> It was vested both with original and appellate jurisdiction in all civil cases in which *Rajput jagirdars* were involved. It was presided over by an official who acted with seven *sardars*. They failed to work in harmony and retired for good after thirteen months. The court was thus a failure.<sup>58</sup>

It was now decided to have the services of an officer from British territory. In September, 1883, Lala Hardayal Singh, who was extra Assistant Commissioner in the Punjab, was appointed superintendent of this court. He had the will and ability to introduce regularity and efficiency into the administration. Within a year he proved himself the best Indian official, who could have authority in Marwar, and was, therefore, in addition to his duties appointed Secretary to the *Musahib Ala* from March 23, 1884.<sup>59</sup> Henceforth he was assisted in his court work by Jiwanand Upadhyay, who was formerly manager of Mandi State. He was authorised to try suits not exceeding Rs. 2,000 in value as well as miscellaneous cases. The superintendent took up all cases beyond his powers, but in

53. (i) Hardaval Singh, op. cit., para 93 (3), p. 264.

(ii) *Reu*, op. cit., Vol. II, p. 679.

54. Hardaval Singh, op. cit., p. 307.

55. *Ibid.*, para 309, p. 670.

56. (i) *Ibid.*, paras 40, 41 and 42, pp. 691-92.

(ii) ARS (1882-83), Marwar Agency Report, para 21, p. 113.

57. Hardaval Singh, op. cit., para 351, p. 698.

58. (i) ARS (1882-83), WRSR Report, para 22, p. 113.

(ii) Hardaval Singh, op. cit., pp. 698-99.

59. (i) *Ibid.*, paras 353 and 354, pp. 699 and 700.

(ii) ARS (1883-84), WRSR Report, para 22, p. 87.

(iii) MAR (1884-85), para 36, p. 20.

case of a land or adoption suit in which a *tazimi sardar* was a party he worked in conjunction with a *thakur*, nominated by the *Mehkma Khas* as a joint judge of the court<sup>60</sup>

Meanwhile, in February, 1883 the jurisdiction of the civil, criminal and other courts was defined. The Civil Court (*Sadar Diwani Adalat*) with its headquarters at Jodhpur was empowered to entertain appeals against the findings of the *pargana hakims* and the *kotwal*, Jodhpur, and try original suits not exceeding Rs. 5,000 (or by the order of the Appellate Court Rs. 10,000) in value with the exception of those, in which either a *Rajput jagirdar* was concerned or a question of adoption was at issue. It had an insolvency side for all except *Rajput jagirdars* and every person unable to pay the court fees had to be certified as a pauper by this tribunal.

The Criminal Court (*Sadar Faujdari Adalat*) presided over by a magistrate had both original and appellate powers. It was empowered to hear appeals against the decisions of the *hakims* and the *kotwal* Jodhpur. On the original side, it could punish offenders with fine upto Rs. 1,000 and imprisonment not exceeding two years and with the permission of the Appellate Court upto five years. In appeals, its orders of imprisonment upto three months and fine of Rs. 100 were usually final.

The Appellate Court (*Adalat Appeal*) heard appeals against the decisions of the civil and criminal courts, tried original suits exceeding Rs. 5,000 in value and all adoption cases in which a *Rajput jagirdar* was not concerned and could pass a sentence of imprisonment of ten years and fine of Rs. 5,000. Its orders confirming the decrees of the lower courts in civil cases, and its sentences not exceeding one year's imprisonment and fine of Rs. 500 in criminal cases were usually not appealable.

The *pargana hakims* were vested with both civil and criminal powers. On the civil side they were empowered to try suits not exceeding Rs. 500 in value. On the criminal side they could punish offenders with imprisonment upto one month and fine upto Rs. 50. The following year, the powers of the *hakims* on the criminal side were enlarged. The Jodhpur *kotwal* could entertain suits upto Rs. 1,000 in value and with the permission of the *Sadar Diwani Adalat* upto Rs. 2,000. He could inflict punishment of six months'.

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<sup>60</sup>. Erskine, op. cit., Vol. III A, Chap. XI, p. 137.

imprisonment and fine of Rs. 200.<sup>61</sup>

As a result of the reforms of 1874 the court fee was charged according to a sliding scale graduated on the basis of time taken in presenting the suit. This system was unreasonable, inequitable and unduly exorbitant for a litigant who filed the suit after a longer space of time. As the fee was to be paid after the passing of the decree, vexatious litigation cropped up and innocent defendants were harassed. The plaintiff had little to stake. It could easily be misused by the parties acting in collusion with each other to deprive the *Darbar* of their legitimate revenues by coming to an understanding at the fag end of the case. With a view to getting rid of these evils, a reform in the law of court fees was introduced in July, 1884, the main change being imposition of court fees at 6½% of the sum involved. It was payable at the time of presentation of the petition.<sup>62</sup> The system of summonses instead of costly *talabs* was also introduced.<sup>63</sup>

An insolvency side was added to the Court of Sardars in 1884 for the relief and protection of encumbered *jagirdars*. On receipt of an application for relief from such a *jagirdar*, his income was ascertained, a portion was set apart for his maintenance and state dues and the balance was assigned to the creditors who were paid in instalments. The insolvency branch worked well. It proved to be of advantage both to the *jagirdar* and his creditors. The former was freed from his liabilities and the latter received their dues without difficulty.<sup>64</sup>

Arrears in the Civil Court had not yet been cleared. In the meanwhile, the period of limitation was reduced from 12 to 10 years. As a result, an additional large crop of suits sprang up. So two subordinate civil courts were created in 1884 and 1886. They existed till 1899.<sup>65</sup>

But these reforms were futile as long as the *jagirdars*, who were far more independent of their chief than the latter was of the British government, exercised unlimited civil and criminal powers over the people in their estates.<sup>66</sup> Though such authority had never

61. (i) Akhtiyarat Hakimo Kai (1883-84).

(ii) Hardayal Singh, op. cit., pp. 61, 685, 693-94, 699 and 724.

(iii) MAR (1884-85), pp. 3-6 and 36.

(iv) MAR (1885-86), pp. 19-24 and 36.

(v) Erskine, op. cit., Vol. III A, Chap. XI, p. 135-36.

62. (i) Hardayal Singh, op. cit., para 272, pp. 635-36 and para 315, p. 672.

(ii) MAR (1884-85), para 42, p. 27.

63. (i) Hardayal Singh, op. cit., para 358, p. 702.

(ii) Ibid.

64. MAR (1884-85), para 19 and 20, pp. 5 and 10.

65. (i) MAR (1884-85), para 9 and 23, pp. 5 and 11.

(ii) MAR (1886-87), para 234, p. 70.

66. ARS (1867-68), Marwar Agency Report, para 77-84, pp. 18-9.

been conceded openly to them by the ruling power, the degree of restriction actually imposed upon them depended on the ability and willingness of the ruling chief to intervene. It was in most cases wanting. Consequently, every *jagir* became a state within state where negation of justice was common and persons were unjustly confined and put to torture.<sup>67</sup>

Such cases were not a new feature, but *Marwari* traders brought home notions of justice from British India which incited the people not to submit quietly to gross abuse of power. Powlett, soon after his arrival in Jodhpur, came to the conclusion that some limits must be imposed upon the judicial powers of the *jagirdars*.<sup>68</sup> It was a very delicate task. The nobles clung to the old order and deprecated the introduction of control over them. Measures adopted in Jaipur in 1882 to compel *Shekhawat Sardars* to submit for inspection diaries and files of criminal cases decided by them proved to be ill-considered. The following year, the nobles of Bikaner, who among other things wanted to acquire judicial and revenue powers, revolted against their chief.<sup>69</sup> Yet Powlett took up the question with tact and firmness. He assembled the principal *jagirdars* and explained to them the salient features of the Darbar's scheme—(i) gradation of powers; (ii) detection of its abuse; (iii) free scope for appeal; (iv) training of court officials; and (v) holding of open courts.<sup>70</sup>

The *jagirdars* argued vehemently that they could not be deprived of their powers as long as they held their estates, it being inherent in them. In a conciliatory spirit Powlett modified the draft orders without yielding on any important point. The *jagirdars'* courts were divided into three grades, namely<sup>71</sup> :

- (a) Those authorized to try civil suits not exceeding Rs. 1,000 in value and on the criminal side to pass a sentence of six months' imprisonment.
- (b) Those possessing exactly half of these powers.

67. Pr. 345 (AGG to Secy. For. No. 2849 G. d. Sept.) in For. Int. A Oct. 1884, No. 345-49.

68. (i) Pr. 346 (RWRS to First Asst. to AGG No. 6 p. d. Sept. 7, 1884), loc. cit.

(ii) ARS (1883-84), WRSR Report, para 28, p. 88.

69. (i) For. Pol. A. Dec. 1882 No. 29-35.

(ii) Keepwiths to For. Int. A Oct. No. 345-49.

(iii) No. 345 (AGG to Secy. For. No. 2849 G. d. Sept. 19, 1884), loc. cit.

70. Pr. 346 (RWRS to First Asst. to AGG No. 6 p. d. Sept. 7, 1884), loc. cit.

71. (i) Pr. 347 (Civil and Criminal Jurisdiction of principal jagirdars of Marwar), loc. cit.

(ii) ARS (1884-85), WRSR Report, para 9, p. 97.

(iii) MAR (1884-85), para 26, p. 14.



- (c) Those, which could take up civil suits of a value not exceeding Rs. 300 and punish offenders with one month's imprisonment and fine upto Rs. 100 in criminal cases.

Initially, eighteen *jagirdars* were placed in the first grade, nineteen in the second and thirteen in the third. The number of tribunals together with the powers exercised by each of them was liable to change.<sup>72</sup> The judicial powers of the *jagirdars* were thus subject to their good conduct and could be withdrawn in case of abuse.

It was insisted upon that persons trained in rules of procedure by the Court of *Sardars* were employed by *jagirdars* invested with judicial powers and rules prevalent in *Raj* courts, adhered to. On the criminal side the *jagirdar* courts could try all cases except those of dacoity, murder, suicide and accidental deaths which were to be tried by the *Darbar* courts. They had to submit after investigation their reports on all such cases to the latter as required punishment exceeding their powers. Appeals were to be made within two months to the *Sardars'* Court which was presided over by Lala Hardayal Singh. After his departure they were heard by the *Mehkma Khas*. It was particularly desired by the *jagirdars*. In the event of any *jagirdar* exercising tyranny or disobeying the *Darbar* regulations, further instructions were issued by the *Darbar*. As a measure of expediency punishments for such offences were not defined.<sup>73</sup> Thus the judicial powers of *jagirdars* were defined and regulated. It was indeed a step in the advancement of good administration.

This reorganisation was accompanied by a systematic work of legislation which resulted in an approximation of the entire judicial machinery to the regular Anglo-Indian model. The state had no written law. The judges in matters both of right and procedure generally professed to follow the rules of customary laws and usage of the country, but in effect they followed the dictates of their own fancy and will. It resulted in dissatisfaction. Specific rules and regulations were, therefore, issued from time to time by the *Mehkma Khas* for the guidance of subordinate courts. But they were both scanty and scattered, and caused delay, inconvenience and procedural irregularities. The Marwar Civil Procedure Code was brought

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72. (i) Pr. 348 (Statement giving names of *jagirdars* invested with judicial powers), loc. cit.  
 (ii) MAR 1884-85, para 25, pp. 12-3.

73. (i) Pr. 347 (Civil and criminal jurisdiction of principal *jagirdars* of Marwar with remarks by KWRs), loc. cit.  
 (ii) MAR (1884-85), para 26 8, pp. 14-5.

forward in 1886, and in 1887, the Marwar Criminal Procedure Code to remove them.

Hardayal Singh prepared a draft of rules relating to the jurisdiction and procedure for the disposal of civil suits. After a very careful and close examination by a committee consisting of seven top civil administrators of the state it was sanctioned by the Maharaja.<sup>74</sup> The code was based mainly on the principles underlying the laws relating to those subjects in force in British India, but it was simpler and more elastic and quite in keeping with the requirements of the people, and the customs and traditions of the territory. Clauses, as were found unnecessary in Marwar, were omitted. By way of additions there were sections bearing on the disposal of suits by means of oath administered according to the agreement of the parties. In such cases, the decisions could not be appealable. Monetary suits were to be instituted in the court within whose jurisdiction the plaintiff and not the defendant resided. The subordinate courts could not order the sale of immovable property of a defendant in satisfaction of money decree against him except with the previous sanction of the *Mehkma Khas*.<sup>75</sup> From the beginning of the same year the Limitation, the Evidence and the Stamp Act came into force. They were not as elaborate as their prototype in British India.<sup>76</sup>

The following year, the Secretary to the *Musahib Ala* prepared the Criminal Procedure Code. It was placed before another special committee of five members. After being discussed clause by clause and suitably modified here and there it received the assent of the *Maharaja* and came into force with effect from March 9, 1887.<sup>77</sup> It was based upon Act X of 1882, but there were important points of difference. The Marwar Code contained no provisions for trial by jury or with the aid of assessors. It empowered the criminal courts to pass a decree for the value of property stolen or robbed against the *jagirdar* within whose territory the offence had been committed or the tracks of the accused proved to terminate. It prescribed a period of limitation of three and six months for the lodging of complaints relating to the commission of petty and serious offences respectively.<sup>78</sup>

74. MAR (1885-86), Sec. 1, para 25, pp. 13-4.

75. (i) MAR (1907-08), Chap. III, para 6, pp. 8-9.

(ii) Erskine, op. cit., Vol. III, A, p. 134.

76. (i) MAR (1885-86), Sec. 1, para 25, pp. 13-4.

(ii) Erskine, op. cit., Vol. III A, p. 134.

77. (i) MAR (1886-87), para 173-75, p. 50.

(ii) MAR (1907-08), Chap. III para 6, pp. 8-9.

78. Erskine, op. cit., Vol. III A, pp. 134-35.

Even after this reorganization the *Mehkma Musahibat*, known as *Mehkma Khas* since 1881, was as before the highest judicial tribunal. It exercised full powers of appeal, revision and control over all the subordinate courts. A few steps were, therefore, taken to improve its working. The records of the past ten years were systematically arranged. Boxes were placed for petitions. A register of complaint was maintained and looked into. For every branch of cases a separate office was provided for in order to promote regularity in work. Appeals against the decisions of the subordinate courts were regularly heard. No point was settled verbally. Written orders were passed on the file. Decisions forming precedents were henceforth published in the Marwar Gazette for reference.<sup>79</sup>

Thus the courts in Marwar were remodelled, their functions defined and their powers regulated. Anomalies were removed. The rationalised judicial machinery presented a striking contrast to what it was a few years ago.

### Organisation of Police

During the first ten years of Jaswant Singh's reign dacoities and crimes of violence were suppressed with success. Lawless *thakurs* and tribes were brought to book. Lohiana in the south, Bardwa on the Jaipur border, and Boyatra and Sankra in the west, which had resisted authority and were the chief resort of predatory hordes, were razed to the ground in 1882 and 1883.<sup>80</sup> The introduction of statutory laws and creation of effective courts strengthened the administration of justice. For a while, all these valuable steps proved both reformatory and deterrent, but they could not produce lasting results unless an efficient police system was instituted for the prevention and detection of crime and criminals. That way alone lay the protection of the oppressed people. Police duties in those days were performed by local troops and the *jagir* militia, which consisted of (i) *Kila Fauj* (ii) *Sadar Fauj* (iii) *Pargana Fauj* (iv) Mixed contingent of horsemen, camel *sowars* and footmen supplied by the *jagirdars* under the old feudal system.<sup>81</sup> The efficiency of this force was doubtful. Worse still, criminals were given refuge by the privileged.<sup>82</sup>

79. MAR (1886-87), para 201-02, pp. 62-63.

80. (i) ARS (1882-83), WRAR Report, para 8-15, pp. 109-12.

(ii) Erskine, *op. cit.*, chap. II, p. 74.

81. (i) MAR (1885-86), Sec. II, para 26, p. 14.

(ii) For. Int. A March, 1909 No. 242 (AGG to Secy. For. No. 54 d. Feb. 20)

82. Van Wart, *op. cit.*, p. 73.

*Girdawars* were placed in charge of *parganas* in 1882, for detection of crime. The following year the department of *Insidad Vardaat* and *Girdawari* was constituted.<sup>83</sup> The *Mehkma Girai* was established in 1885 to secure efficient detection and regular registration of crime. It was placed under an officer whose services had been obtained from the *Thuggi* and *Dakaiti* Suppression Department, Ajmer.

Marwar was divided into well spread police *thanas* and *chowkis* with 718 *sowars* and 987 footmen. They were helped by the *jagir* militia posted at *hakumat* headquarters.<sup>84</sup> Each *thana* was in the charge of a *thanedar*, who was henceforth a state employee and had to undergo a qualifying test in police rules. His proceedings and records were inspected. He could be transferred. The *chowki* contingent was under the *thanedar*. Cognisable offences were defined. Hienous crimes were declared non-bailable.<sup>85</sup>

Every complaint was registered and reported by the *thanedar* to the *Hakim*. In case of a cognizable offence the *thanedar* had to visit the spot, pursue tracks, arrest the offender, recover stolen or robbed property and produce the accused before the court. He remained on tour for four days a week to detect crimes. He also kept himself in touch with *jagirdars*, *bhomias*, *hawaldars* and village *chowkidars*, and watched the movements of notorious characters. Inns were frequented by him in search of criminals. Men incharge of *chowkis* also went on tour and patrolled public roads. They reported occurrence of every incident to the *thanedar* and pursued tracks.

Whenever a corpse had to be examined, the *thanedar* held a *panchayat* to draw up its description. Similarly, reliable persons were associated when a search was made. In chasing offenders policemen were helped by the complainant as well as trackers who could trace footprints.<sup>86</sup>

### Settlement of Lawless Elements

While the police administration was organised to curb nefarious outlaws and maintain peace and security, another agency

83. Hardayal Singh, op. cit., pp. 266, 714 and 736.

84. (i) Sub. Encl 4 to Encl. 1 (I.G.P. Raj Marwar to the *Mehkma Khas* No. G. 293/F d. April 4, 1907) to For. Int. March, 1909 No. 242.

(ii) RSAJ, MK File, Police Reorganisation (1885).

85. MAR (1885-86), Sec. II, para 33, p. 19.

86. (i) RSAJ, Rules for the guidance of *thanedars* (1886).

(ii) RSAJ, IGP, Raj Marwar to the *Mehkma Khas* (No. 293/F d. April 4, 1907), loc. cit.

was set up to reclaim and settle to agriculture certain tribal people, which supplied thieves and robbers. The unsocial elements mostly came of *Baories*, *Minas*, *Sansis* and *Thories*, who had been neglected by society.

Rules were framed on the advice of the Political Agent for the suppression of *Baories*. They were deprived of camels, horses and arms and were also denied freedom of movement. They could not move from one village to another without a permit. *Jagirdars*, *bhomias* and officials were warned on pain of heavy punishment not to give them shelter much less share any stolen property with them.<sup>87</sup>

A special department called *Mehkma Baorian and Jurayam Paisha* was set up in 1882 with Mehta Bakhtawarmal as superintendent. It aimed at providing honest livelihood to the tribal people by :

- (i) Allotment of land holdings to them at lower rates.
- (ii) Drafting their children to the capital and other towns for imparting them training in crafts.
- (iii) Keeping such persons, as did not accept this mode of life, under surveillance in specific areas.
- (iv) Punishing those who played hide and seek.<sup>88</sup>

A consolidated code of rules was brought out for reference in 1890.<sup>89</sup> The settled population was divided into two classes-A and B. Those registered in class A were wilder than those of class B. An eye was kept on them and every effort was made to settle them on agricultural pursuits by providing them with land, implements and stock. Individuals could be transferred from one class to another according to change in their conduct.<sup>90</sup>

The *Minas* declared on oath to abstain from theft, robbery, bloodshed and other heinous offences and erected a *Gadotra*.<sup>91</sup> Their criminal propensities were on the decline. But both reformatory and deterrent steps were needed. Success depended upon the adoption of similar rules by neighbouring states.

While the administration was reformed, the necessity of seeking the confidence and advice of some experienced nobles and civil administrators was felt. A council of three members was

87. P.A. to AGG No. 85/36 J. d. May 12, 1873 in For. B Sept. 1878 No. 40-74.

88. (i) Hardayal Singh, op. cit., para 402, pp. 338-40.

(ii) RSAJ, Report on the Settlement of Criminal Tribes in Marwar (1889-90), p. 1.

89. (i) Ibid., (1890-91), p. 1.

(ii) MAR (1890-92), Chap. XIII, Sec. 11, p. 48.

90. MAR (1894-95), Chap. XII, Sec. II, p. 65.

91. Sukhdeo Prasad, Crime and Punishment in Marwar (1886-95), p. .

formed in 1884.<sup>92</sup> It was reconstituted and enlarged. In 1895, it was composed of fifteen members of whom four were leading nobles.<sup>93</sup>

### Reorganisation of Parganas

The success of judicial and police reforms largely depended upon the organisation and efficiency of district administration. The Jodhpur *pargana* with 1444 villages was too unwieldy. It was split into viable units and the *parganas* of Pali, Bilara, Pachpadra, Shergarh and Siwana were carved out. The territorial boundaries of some other *hakumats* was readjusted.<sup>94</sup> The headquarters of Bhinmal *Hakumat* were shifted to Jaswantpura in 1884.<sup>95</sup> Two new *hakumats* of Sankda and Desuri were created in 1884 and 1895.<sup>96</sup> All the *parganas* were arranged into six circles each incharge of a superintendent with headquarters in districts.<sup>97</sup> The *hakims* were the backbone of district administration. Their posts were graded. A test of proficiency was prescribed for them. *Hakims*, who committed irregularities, were punished.<sup>98</sup>

### Administration of Customs Revenue

Under the comprehensive term *Suyar\**, the meaning of which is popularly conveyed by the English word 'Customs', were grouped various levies. In addition to import, export and transit duties many other cesses on merchandise were imposed in Marwar and their rates were not uniform.<sup>99</sup> Every town and every district had its own customs rates, octroi duties, weighing and brokerage charges. Again, some classes were privileged and did not pay at all.<sup>1</sup> The *Darbar* mostly farmed the right of collecting the *sayar* duties to the highest bidder. Direct management was undertaken

92. MAR (1884-85), para 10, p. 7.

93. (i) Pr. 172 (RWRS to First Asst. to AGG d. Dec. 14, 1895) in For. Int. A Feb. 1896 No. 150-74

(ii) MAR (1895-96), Chap. II, p. 14 and Chap. XVI, p. 28.

94. Hardayal Singh, op. cit., p. 40.

95. (i) Erskine, op. cit., Vol III A, Chap. XVII, p. 190.

(ii) Reu. op. cit., Vol. II, pp. 477.

96. (i) MAR (1895-96), Chap. II, p. 15.

(ii) Reu. op. cit., Vol II, pp. 476 and 479.

97. MAR (1894-95), Chap. II, p. 8.

98. (i) MAR (1884-85), para 60, p. 36.

(ii) MAR (1885-86), Chap. VI; Sec. III, para 71-2, p. 31.

(iii) Reu. op. cit., Vol. II, pp. 478-79, 481, 484 and 488.

\* Also called Dan.

99. Mapa, Tulai, Dalali, Sriji, Chungi, Kotwali, Mahajan, Kiwadi, Bohrabunt. etc.

(i) ARS (1882-83), WRSR Report, para 24, p. 113.

(ii) RSAJ, Sanad Bahis No. 136, p. 118; No. 138, p. 166; and No. 151, p. 103.

1. (i) ARS (1882-83), WRSR Report, para 24, p. 113.

(ii) Hardayal Singh, op. cit., para 168, p. 497.

only when he proved dishonest or bankrupt.<sup>2</sup>

None of the state regulations of tariff affected the internal conditions of *jagir* villages. *Jagirdars* imposed their own duties on merchandise.<sup>3</sup> All these vexatious obstacles caused chaos and choked trade.

An effort was made to introduce reforms in 1874 for affording convenience to traders. On the proposal of the Political Agent *pargana* transit duty called *Rahadari* was abolished. The rates of duties levied on goods imported into, exported from or passing through Marwar were revised and consolidated. Duty on food grains was remitted. The new rates were to be realised at specified places within the *Raj* limits and except *Mapa* all other duties which *jagirdars* and *bhomias* had so long levied were abolished. They were given money compensation.<sup>4</sup> The privileged *Charans*, *Bhats*, *Brahmans*, *Sardars* and state employees were subjected to the frontier duty.<sup>5</sup> These measures set the trend of progress in trade and commerce. But the *Raj* officials, while adopting enhanced import and export duties, did not do away with the local cesses.<sup>6</sup> Thus was destroyed the beneficial character of the scheme. Still worse, for want of direction and control it was never worked out properly, and the practice of farming resulted in gross abuses and utter inefficiency.<sup>7</sup>

No further changes were effected till 1882. That year, Powlett, Resident, Western Rajputana States, suggested (i) the abolition of all dues except the import, export and transit duties; (ii) a system of checks by permits and counterfoils to diminish speculation; (iii) reduction of duties on necessities by raising them on luxuries and (iv) the abolition of *Mapa* by compensating *jagirdars* who levied it.<sup>8</sup>

2. (i) Hardayal Singh, op. cit., paras 165 and 166, pp. 494-96.

(ii) Hewson Report on Marwar Customs (April 21, 1884), para 3.

(iii) MAR (1907-08), Chap. 4, para 27, p. 43.

3. (i) RSAJ, Sanad Bahis No. 136, p. 118; No. 138, p. 166 and No. 151, p. 103.

(ii) Hewson Report on Marwar Customs, para 7, loc. cit.

(iii) Hardayal Singh, op. cit., para 170, p. 407.

4. (i) For. Gen. B Oct. 1874, No. 4-8 (Proclamation of the Maharaja).

(ii) For. Gen. A Oct. 1875 No. 19-24 (Notes).

(iii) ARS (1882-83), WRSR Report, para 35, p. 113.

5. (i) For. Gen. B Oct. 1874 No. 4-8, loc. cit.

(ii) Hewson Report, loc. cit.

(iii) Reu, Vol. II, p. 473.

6. ARS (1882-83), WRSR Report, para 36, p. 114.

7. Hewson Report, para 18, loc. cit.

8. ARS (1882-83), WRSR Report, para 25, p. 113.

To have a better chance of success for the new attempt the *Darbar* was induced to experiment from September 20, 1882 direct administration of the *Sayar* Department.<sup>9</sup> A new tariff was introduced with effect from October 13, 1882.<sup>10</sup> It did away with the petty cesses and prescribed new rates of import, export and transit duties on specific products and items.<sup>11</sup> Thus the *Sayar* became more strictly a customs department.

The whole of Marwar was divided into fifteen circles\* for the administration of this department and each circle into *thanas*. A *daroga* was placed incharge of each circle and under him were a number of *thanedars*. They realised duties, prevented smuggling and submitted monthly returns. Five *girdawars* toured constantly within their divisions to check and supervise the working of the circles, but it proved of little use. The posts of *girdawars* were done away with and a central department of Marwar Customs was established at Jodhpur to direct and supervise the administration.<sup>12</sup>

Permit system was introduced. Stamped and serially numbered permits called *Ravanna* were issued to the *thanedars* from the headquarters. Each *ravanna* consisted of a foil and a counterfoil. The foil was given to the person paying duty at the *thana*. All the counterfoils were sent to the headquarters. The foils, which were recovered at the place of destination, were arranged in separate bundles and sent to the headquarters for scrutiny.<sup>13</sup> This procedure proved a check on fraud. Besides the *ravanna*, there was another free permit, locally called '*khali chhithi*'. Any person wishing to send goods to some place within Marwar was entitled to it. The *khali chhithi* protected him from harrassment on the charge of smuggling goods.<sup>14</sup>

The *Darbar* obtained from November 1, 1882 the services of F.T. Hewson, Assistant Resident, for strengthening the new system. He supervised it in conjunction with the state superintendent. During the ensuing cold weather he toured the whole of the state

9. (i) ARS (1882-83), WRSR Report, para 28, p. 114.

(ii) Hewson Report, para 8, loc. cit.

10. (i) RSAJ, *Hathi Bihit* 5, pp. 40-3.

(ii) RSAJ, *Sunad Bahi* 161, p. 106.

(iii) Hewson Report, para 31, loc. cit.

(iv) Hardayal Singh, op. cit., pp. 498 and 534-36.

11. (i) Hewson Report, para 13, loc. cit.

(ii) Hardaval Singh, op. cit., para 173-10, p. 499.

\* Subsequently increased to sixteen by the inclusion of Malani, ut infra, p. 67

12. (i) Hewson Report, para 16, loc. cit.

(ii) Loch, Report on Marwar Customs (March 31, 1892).

13. Hewson Report, loc. cit., paras 21, 22 and 23.

14. Ibid., para 24.



and visited circle headquarters and customs posts (i) to see that the new system was acted upon; (ii) to detect and check abuses; (iii) to instruct the *darogas* and their staff in the new rules and assess their capacity (iv) to suggest after inspection any augmentation or reduction of preventive and collection posts and (v) to come in closer contact with merchants and *jagirdars* and ascertain their views and grievances.<sup>15</sup> The results of the tours were rewarding. The total receipts from customs for the twelve months commencing from September 20, 1882 and ending on August 31, 1883 amounted to Rs. 11,15,020. This amount exceeded the estimated income by two lacs of rupees.<sup>16</sup> Revision of rates, as advised by Powlett, when the reforms were initiated, was thus rendered easy. In consequence, all the duties were abolished on forty one articles and on 210, only export duty. Import duty was reduced on 215 articles and export and transit duties, on seven and six articles respectively. It did involve a sacrifice of Rs. 1,40,000 on the estimated receipts but increased trade went a long way to fill up the gap.<sup>17</sup> Side by side with these reforms, the European computation of months into the state financial system was introduced from August, 1884.<sup>18</sup>

It was a practice that responsible civil servants chose their own staff, and it was paid by the *Darbar*. Incumbents looked upon their immediate superior as their master. The removal of an official of standing involved the displacement of a whole horde, each of whom considered it an ignominy to serve a new master or was ejected by the new comer and his flock of partisans.<sup>19</sup> Hewson tried to inculcate the doctrine that the *Raj*, which gave the pay, was entitled to the allegiance of the underlings. Such *thanedars*, as resigned on the retirement or dismissal of their patron, were noted as persons ineligible for future employment. The dismissal of *thanedars* by *darogas* without authority from the head office was also forbidden. Deserving *thanedars* were promoted as *darogas*.<sup>20</sup> Residents of the state were employed and their pay scales were raised. These measures created trained service and diminished the necessity of pillaging right and left, which the custom of in today and out tomorrow engenders. Transit duties were abolished all over the state in 1890.<sup>21</sup> The system was also extended to the *jagir* areas by awarding to the

15. Hewson Report, loc. cit., para 18.

16. ARS (1882-83), RWRS Report, para 26, p. 114.

17. Hewson Report, loc. cit., para 31.

18. Ibid., para 29.

19. Ibid.

20. Ibid.

21. Pr. 54 (Governor-General to Maharaja d. May, 1890.) in For. Int. A June, 1890) No. 51-5.

*jagirdars* a fixed annual compensation in lieu of the duties they previously levied on the goods exported from or imported into their *patta* villages.<sup>22</sup>

These reforms removed irksome obstacles to trade, and substantially increased the *Raj* revenue at a bound from an average of Rs. 4,61,442 Rs. 9,96,180 and averaged Rs. 9,28,950 till 1892.

### Administration of Khalsa Land Revenue

The third major source of revenue was the land rent realised from *khalsa* villages.<sup>23</sup> The state demand was based on a traditional share of the produce together with certain cesses in cash or in kind. It ranged from one fifth to one half on the dry and one sixth to one third on the wet crops.<sup>24</sup> The *Batai* system was in vogue for the determination of this share, and its modes were : (i) *Lata* (ii) *Kunta* and (iii) *Kankar-Kunta*.<sup>25</sup>

Under the *lata*, which was the most common mode, the entire grain produce was collected and weighed by a measure known as *kalsi*. The *Darbar* share was taken in kind on the spot.<sup>26</sup> The *kunta* mode provided that the state share was to be determined by an estimate of the produce arrived at by guess or calculation on the threshing-floor while under the *kankar-kunta* mode an estimate of the standing crop was made and the state share was taken in kind on its basis.<sup>27</sup> Appraisalment was done in consultation with village

22. (i) Pr. 54 (Governor-General to Maharaja d. May 13, 1890) in For. Int. A. June, 1890 No. 51-5.

(ii) Loch, W. Report on Marwar Customs (March 31, 1892), p. 3.

(iii) MAR (1890-91), p. 20.

23. (i) Loch Report, loc. cit., p. 5.

(ii) MAR 1890-91, pp. 16-7.

24. 'Khalsa villages' meant villages under the direct administration of the Darbar. Their number together with the land revenue derived from them varied from time to time :

Year	No. of villages	Revenue
1884-85	486	5,30,462
1894-95	625	6,89,365
1901-02	678	8,44,507
1907-08	687	10,25,082

(i) MAR (1884-85), para 33, p. 44.

(ii) MAR (1894-95), Chap. V, p. 36.

(iii) MAR (1907-08), Chap. II, p. 7.

24. (i) Walter, Gazetteer of Marwar, Malani and Jaisalmer (1878), p. 17.

(ii) RSAJ, MK File 4 Land Revenue Survey of Marwar (1884),

25. Walter, op. cit., pp. 17-8.

26. The *kalsi* was generally equivalent to 10 maunds or 373 kg.

(i) RSAJ, *Sanad Bahi* 63, p. 16 and 100, p. 219.

(ii) Walter, op. cit., p. 17.

(iii) Niranjani Swaroop, op. cit., Chap. V, p. 28-29.

27. (i) RSAJ, *Sanad Bahi* 63, p. 16.

(ii) Walter, op. cit., pp. 17-8.

*motbirs* and *chaudahries*. Rent was assessed for chillies, condiments, onions and such other crops, as were difficult of division, at a fixed rate per *bigha* after measuring the land with the *dori*.<sup>28</sup> From well lands a fixed amount of produce in kind called *Ghughri* was received. At some places a fixed rate per *bigha* in cash was realised from the cultivators.<sup>29</sup>

Villages were mostly farmed out to *ijaredars* and village *chaudahries* or let to high officials for collection of land revenue.<sup>30</sup> They paid a certain sum on account every year and at the end of the term of 3/4 years accounts were settled. In 1880, a large number of villages was given on contract for three years and a half. Revenues from some villages were realised through direct *Raj Agency* as well under the supervision of the *Diwan*.<sup>31</sup> The interests of the *ijaredars* lay not in the land but in the income. They squeezed from the cultivators as much as they could and obtained from the *Raj* as much remission as possible.<sup>32</sup> Thus both the systems of assessment and collection exposed the *ryot* to exploitation in varied ways and gave rise to friction besides putting the *Raj* to loss of revenue.

Before reform could be introduced it was desirable to settle village boundary disputes which often caused bloodshed. For this purpose the services of a European officer were asked for in December, 1878.<sup>33</sup> Loch could take over charge of the Boundary settlement in January, 1882.<sup>34</sup> He executed a boundary survey of the entire state. Many villages had been deserted. They existed only on paper. Their traces had been lost. Corrupt *kanungos* counted them for they received *kanungi* on them. After excluding such deserted villages boundaries of 3711 villages were surveyed.<sup>35</sup> Of them 3114 were *jagir* and 597 *khalsa*.<sup>36</sup> Under Loch's supervision boundaries of 3623 villages

28. The *paccki dori* measured 92 *haths* and the *kacchi*, 72 *haths*,

(i) Walter, op. cit., p. 18

(ii) Erskine, op. cit., Vol. III A, Chap XIII, p. 148,

(iii) Niranjan Swaroop, op. cit., Chap. V, p. 29.

29. Walter, op. cit., p. 18.

30. Encl. to No. 37 d. April 17, 1885 from Loch to Musahib Ala in WRSR File 21, 1885.

31. MAR (1884-85), para 115, pp. 59-60.

32. Hardayal Singh, op. cit., para 121, p. 312.

33. ARS (1880-81), WRSR Report, para 28, pp. 96-7.

(i) ARS (1881-82), WRSR Report, para 19, p. 120.

(ii) ARS (1882-83), WRSR Report, para 39, p. 116.

(iii) Hardayal Singh, op. cit., para 365, pp. 705-06.

35. The number of villages in Pokran patta according to records was 100. As a result of survey they were found to be 47. In Shergarh pargana the number of villages on record was 209. After survey operations it came to 84 only. Pr. 226 (Boundary Settlement Report, Marwar), loc. cit.

36. Appendix iii (Statement showing the number of *khalsa* and *jagir* villages pargana-wise) to For. Int. A June, 1894, 225-31.

After the introduction of the *bigori* system, the cultivator had to pay the total annual demand in two instalments in proportion to the average wet and dry land cultivated by him.<sup>57</sup> As already indicated forty seven of the vexatious cesses prevalent in Marwar were knocked off<sup>58</sup> *Malba* and *Chaudharbab* were retained and the rest of the fifteen cesses were consolidated into two cesses - *kharda* and *ghasmari*. *Kharda* was a cess levied on non-agriculturists at fixed rates. It was like a duty on occupations based on income, and the highest rate of Rs. 3 was payable by the traders. These were receipts utilised as a municipal fund for the improvement of the village. *Ghasmari* was levied on account of grazing fee. Only two cesses - *Malba* and *Chaudharbab* - were thus realised from the agriculturists on the revenue of the village at the rates noted below<sup>59</sup> :

	Chaudharbab	Malba
(i) not exceeding Rs. 2,000	2%	2.5%
(ii) between Rs. 2,000 and 5,000	1.5%	2%
(iii) exceeding Rs. 5,000	1%	1.5%

Cultivators were grouped in two categories : (i) *Bapidars* and (ii) *Ghair-Bapidars*. Among *bapidars* were included occupancy tenants. They paid at lighter rates than all others by 20%.<sup>60</sup> But they had to pay rent even if the land was not cultivated. *Pattas* signed by

57. MAR (1894-95), Chap. IV Sec. IV, p. 29.

58. Lag-bags prevalent in Marwar :

- |                    |                      |                        |
|--------------------|----------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Tola Chhapai    | 2. Mudda             | 3. Nawa                |
| 4. Sootkataai      | 5. Khuntadan         | 6. Chabina             |
| 7. Parna           | 8. Dakhla            | 9. Kharkar Jor         |
| 10. Danti Jawar    | 11. Karbi            | 12. Bhara              |
| 13. Bhog bhara     | 14. Kharkhar of Hal  | 15. Kharkhar of Hali   |
| 16. Las            | 17. Halwa            | 18. Gharbab            |
| 19. Ghasmari       | 20. Pancharai        | 21. Kharkati           |
| 22. Kharlakar      | 23. Lag bag          | 24. Sawnubab           |
| 25. Pharmaish      | 26. Sukan Bhaith     | 27. Kamal              |
| 28. Charola        | 28. Kanwaria Tapedar | 30. Kanwaria           |
| 31. Malsarina      | 32. Anga             | 33. Dhuan              |
| 34. Phera          | 36. Nangal           | 36. Jajam kharch       |
| 37. Ramram         | 38. Jamabundi        | 39. Mujara             |
| 40. Hawaldar's pay | 41. Parkhai          | 42. Paroti             |
| 43. Lawazma-kamdar | 44. Thali            | 45. Potedar's dues     |
| 46. Kheraalag      | 47. Gazdarana        | 48. Chanwari or Dapa   |
| 49. Nata           | 50. Khani-kunta      | 51. Biasji-ki-Chanwari |
| 52. Paparakhai     | 53. Khada            | 54. Zhoompi            |
| 55. Adhori         | 56. Ghasmari         | 57. Chhapa             |
| 58. Khan Pathar    | 59. Khari            | 60. Parao              |
| 61. Malba          | 62. Chaudharbab      | 63. Pungal mal         |
| 64. Sirina         |                      |                        |

(ii) Hardayal Singh, op. cit., p. 473-8

59. MAR (1894-95), Chap. IV Sec. IV, p. 29.

60. MAR (1894-95), Chap. IV Sec. IV, p. 27.

(ii) RSAJ, MK File 4.4 Revenue Settlement of Marwar.

the *Musahib-Ala* were granted to them. The *ghair-bapidars* were merely tenants-at-will. A *bapidar* was placed under the following privileges and obligations :

- (i) Standing timber and grass in the field belonged to him but ores and mines to the *Raj*.
- (ii) When a new well was sunk, rent was realised at the rates of dry land for ten years in case it was *pacca* and for five years in case of *kachcha*.
- (iii) No *bapidar* could be deprived of his holding as long as he paid his dues, but he could not transfer by sale or charitable grant any *bapoti* holding to foreigners, *Brahmans*, *Rajputs* and *Charans*.
- (iv) If a *bapidar* died without leaving behind any lineal issue, his *bapoti* land would revert to the *Raj*.
- (v) Whenever he left his village under pressure of famine, he could return within five years, and could not be deprived of his holding.<sup>61</sup>

Separate records showing crop returns, rainfall, mutation, computation of area, revenue receipts and outstanding dues were introduced.<sup>62</sup> Local talent was recruited for the purpose. A *patwari* school was set up to train *hawaldars* whose training was supplemented by work in survey and fairing of records.<sup>63</sup> A *hawaldar* or an assistant to him was kept for every three thousand holdings. He watched and recorded the results of each harvest; kept village accounts and reported all changes in the record of rights which he had to keep up to date. In fact, the *hawaldar* was the back-bone of the village administration. He was supervised by an inspector and the inspector by a *daroga*. The Hawala Superintendent was at the head of the land revenue department.<sup>64</sup> The introduction of *bigori* system freed the *ryot* of the *khalsa* areas from exploitation. The state demand of land revenue was fixed with scope for revision after a decade. The timely realisation of the demand was also guaranteed. The reconstruction of the land revenue department strengthened the district administration.

61. (i) MAR (1894-95), Chap. IV Sec. IV, pp. 31-2.

(ii) Note on the Revenue Settlement of Marwar, loc. cit.

(iii) RSAJ, Jodhpur Manual (1915), MS., p. 17.

62. MAR (1894-95), Chap. IV Sec. IV, p. 31.

63. (i) Pr. 226 (Report on Boundary Settlement and Revenue Survey of Marwar) in For. Int. A June, 1894 No. 225-31.

(ii) Pr. 230 (RWRS to 1st Asst. to AGG No. 71 G dr. Feb. 28), loc. cit.

(iii) MAR (1894-95), Chap. IV Sec. IV, p. 31.

64. (i) Pr. 226 (Boundary Settlement and Revenue Survey Report of Marwar), loc. cit.

(ii) No 228. (Asst. Secy. For. to AGG No. 3801-1 d. Oct. 30, 1893).

### Introduction of Excise Operations

While the reform of the land revenue was only in the embryo, a new source of revenue and reform was tapped. With the exception of *Brahmans* and *Mahajans* most of the people of Marwar were addicted to drinking.<sup>65</sup>

Liquor was freely manufactured and sold by *kalals* and *soongas*.\* They had to pay a little in cash or in kind on festive occasions in *jagir* areas. Some of the *jagirdars* had their own stills<sup>66</sup> Liquor was also smuggled from Marwar into Ajmer-Merwara where excise operations were already in force.<sup>67</sup> Rules of hygiene were also not observed in private stills and liquor shops. The Resident advised the *Darbar* to undertake excise operations with the objects of preventing smuggling of liquor from Marwar, checking intemperance, ensuring unadulterated distillation and adding to the revenue of the state.<sup>68</sup> An excise duty varying from 6.25 to 25% was levied in 1885 on liquor distilled at Jodhpur.<sup>69</sup> Operations on a wider scale were undertaken in 1887.<sup>70</sup> Every still and shop was subjected to state control. Sale of liquor on credit and to minors was prohibited. Quality and price were regulated. Manufacture of liquor was made a state monopoly saleable every year to the highest bidder. It was resisted by the local *kalals*. Difficulties were anticipated in *parganas*. The co-operation of *tazimi sardars* was secured by granting them (i) half the license fee (ii) the revenue formerly realised by them and (iii) the right to maintain a still for the manufacture of liquor for their personal consumption.<sup>71</sup> A separate department of excise was established and the state was divided into circles for excise operations. A system of rewards to informers was introduced for effective detection of illicit manufacture and sale.<sup>72</sup> The operations were extended in 1894 to hemp drugs.<sup>73</sup>

65. Maharaja Vijai Singh prohibited the manufacture of liquor through out the State in 1765, but this order did not remain in force for long.

(i) Reu, Vol. II, p. 385.

(ii) MAR (1887-88), Chap. IX, p. 28-9.

\* *Kalals* manufactured, sold and took liquor. *Soongas* only manufactured and sold it.

66. MAR (1887-88), Chap. IX, pp. 27-9.

67. (i) *Ibid.*, p. 28.

(ii) Erskine, op. cit., p. 151.

68. (i) MAR (1887-88), p. 27-8.

(ii) RSAJ, Audah Bahi 1, p. 192.

69. (i) MAR (1885-86), Chap. X Sec. IV, para 146, p. 54.

(ii) RSAJ, Audah Bahi 5, p. 84.

(iii) RSAJ, Audah Bahi 1, p. 192.

(iv) Erskine, op. cit., Chap. 14, p. 151.

70. MAR (1887-88), Chap. IX, para 114 and 115 pp. 36 and 42

71. MAR (1885-88), Chap. IX, para 114, pp. 39-40

72. *Ibid.*, p. 40.

73. Hempted drugs included *Ganja*, *Bhang* and *Bhang* products.

## State Treasury

The opening of the state treasury was another useful step. Formerly, a firm of bankers, Seth Sumermal Umedmal, acted as treasurers for the state. The entire state revenue was deposited with it. Discount was charged both on receipts and with-drawals by it. Interest at 1% a month was demanded on advances.<sup>74</sup> Some state employees were unacknowledged partners in the firm as well.<sup>75</sup> A recurring loss was thus caused to the state every year.

The Resident advised the *Musahib Ala* to put an end to this unprofitable arrangement and set up a state treasury. It was opened on April 1, 1885 with an opening balance of Rs. 5,00,000 borrowed from the firm.<sup>76</sup> All the revenues of the state were paid into it and payments drawn from it. The state was thus saved from wasteful and unauthorised expenditure, and its revenue being put into private channels. The same year, the system of budget estimates was introduced. A statement of estimated receipts and expenditure was prepared at the beginning of the financial year.

## An Assessment

As a result of these reforms the chaos and confusion of the earlier period yielded place to peace and order. Crimes and dacoities were suppressed, efficient courts of justice set up, boundary disputes settled, criminal tribes reclaimed, administration of customs and land revenue reorganised, new sources of revenue tapped, and capital provided for railways, famine relief and other public utility works, which are dealt with elsewhere. In fine, the *Raj* administration was completely overhauled and public confidence and respect for it revived. If the reign of Takhat Singh terminated with the close of feudal disputes, the reign of Jaswant Singh was a period of restoration, reform and reconstruction. Problems and challenges had been faced successfully. The influence of the paramount power in laying essential conditions of good administration was direct and constructive. The policy of subordinate union of the state with the paramount power instead of its subordinate isolation was distinctly visible.

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MAR (1895-96), Chap. X Sec. II, p. 50

74. (i) MAR (1884-85), para 69, p. 43.

(ii) AKS (1885-86), WRSR Report, para 7, p. 125.

75. Van Wart, *op. cit.*, pp. 65-6.

76. (i) ARS (1885-86), WRSR Report, para 8, p. 125.

(ii) Erskine, *op. cit.*, Chap. XII, pp. 141-42.

were demarcated and maps prepared. Disputes of the remaining fifty nine villages were settled after his departure. Boundary disputes were disposed of by mutual agreement, *panchayat* or by *Raj* orders.<sup>37</sup> This boundary settlement was reliable and acceptable to all parties but in the absence of traverse survey proper, tri-junctions were not plotted accurately and boundaries overlapped leading to disputes in some cases.<sup>38</sup> Besides the internal village boundaries, external boundaries were also fixed. Boundaries of Marwar with Ajmer-Merwara, Sirohi, Palanpur and Sindh had been defined earlier. Those with Bikaner, Jaipur, Mewar and Jaisalmer were settled during this period.<sup>39</sup> For the settlement of Marwar-Mewar border, for which many officers had worked earlier, Wyllie was deputed on special duty by the paramount power. In this inter-statal area, which consisted of an intricate mass of hills covered with forest growth, a village to village settlement was carried out.<sup>40</sup>

Loch also undertook in 1883 a revenue survey and summary settlement of the *khalsa* villages. He was assisted by Bhadhawa Ram whose services had been procured from the Punjab.<sup>41</sup> The system of *latai*, *kunta*, etc. was done away with in 1884-85 (V. St. 1941), and the system of *Ankbandi* introduced.<sup>42</sup> Under this system a rough estimate of what a village ought to pay was made and this amount was collected.

A cadastral survey of *khalsa* villages was also made. Field maps and registers, registers of holdings, well statements, village note books and lists of boundary pillars were prepared. The dimensions and the contour of every field were shown in the scale. The name of the owner, the cultivator, the area, kind of soil and crops grown were noted in the field registers. Each cultivator's holdings and their classification were recorded. The well statement recorded the structural features of the well with its short

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37. Pr. 227 (First Asst. to AGG to RWRS No. 286 G. d. Aug. 9, 1893), loc. cit.
38. Niranjan Swaroop, op. cit., Chap. V, p. 23.
39. Marwar-Ajmer-Merwara by Dixon in 1842-47, Marwar-Sirohi by Brooke in 1851, Marwar-Palanpur by Brooke in 1853 and Marwar-Sind by Jackson in 1853.
- Pr. 226 (Boundary Settlement Report of Marwar - Part I) in For. A June, 1894 No. 225-31.
40. Pr. 276 (Wyllie's Report 28, d. March 3, 1889 on the Final Settlement of Mewar-Marwar border) in For. Int. May, 1889 No. 276-80.
41. Pr. 26 (1st Asst. to AGG to RWRS No. 2986 G. of Aug. 8, 1893), loc. cit.
42. (i) RSAJ, WRSR File 21 of 1885, Land Revenue and Settlement Reports from Marwar Darbar.
- (ii) RSA J.MK File 4 I on Summary Settlement of Khalsa villages (1884).
- (iii) MAR (1884-85), paras 115 and 116, pp. 59-60.



history, the names of the co-sharers and the quality of its water. These statements did not indicate the relative value of wells. Graded lists of wells in sixteen anna notation system were, therefore, made by instituting local enquiries. The village note book pointed out the condition of the people, cattle, and some other salient features of the village. Individual rights were recorded in appropriate books.<sup>43</sup>

Land, both fallow and cultivated, was classified on the basis of colour, texture and other natural features of the soil.<sup>44</sup> This classification could not give by itself the comparative value of various classes of land, which in Marwar depends on rains or on the quantity and the quality of water that its wells contain. Another classification was, therefore, adopted. It divided the land into two categories—(i) secure which was irrigated constantly or dry cultivated; and (ii) insecure which was solely dependent on rains. Most of the secure land in those days was irrigated by wells and was called *chahi*. Some land was irrigated by the water of newly built Jaswantsagar and Sadri reserviors. It included tank beds and canal irrigated areas. Besides, the land, where the *rabi* crop could be produced only by rain water, was known as *sewaj*.<sup>45</sup>

The *Darbar* was deprived of the services of both Loch and Bhadhawa Ram when the settlement operations were approaching the important stage of assessment. The Government of India wanted to depute another European officer to carry on the task. The Resident sent a note on the principles and procedures of settlement. But the *Maharaja* entrusted the work to Pt. Sukhdeo Prasad, Judicial Secretary, who had started his career in the Settlement Department, after having been trained in the Punjab.<sup>46</sup> No plan had been outlined in advance. It was decided to introduce

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43. (i) Pr. 230 (RWRS to 1st Asstt. to AGG, Raj. d. 71 G.D. Feb. 28, 1894) in For. Int. A June 1894, Nos. 225-31.  
 (ii) RSAJ, WRSR File 4 (1894)-Note by Abbot on Land Revenue Settlement.
44. (i) RSAJ, MK File 4/4 (1895) - Note on the Revenue Settlement of Marwar.  
 (ii) MAR (1894-95), Chap. IV, Sec. IV, p. 23.  
 (iii) Sukhdeo Prasad, The Final Report of the Famine Relief Operations in Marwar (1899-1900), para. 1, pp. 37-9.
45. (i) RSAJ, MK File 4/4 (1894) - Note on the Revenue Settlement of Marwar, loc. cit.  
 (ii) MAR (1894-95), Chap. IV, Sec. IV, pp. 23-4.  
 (iii) Niranjan Swaroop, op. cit., Chap. V, pp. 24-5.
46. (i) Pr. 230 (RWRS to 1st Asst. to AGG No. 71 G. d. Feb. 28) in For. Int. A June 1894, No. 225-31.  
 (ii) ARS (1893-94), WRSR Report, para 16, p. 55.  
 (iii) Keepwiths to For. Int. B Nov., 1894 No. 17-9.  
 (iv) RSAJ, WRSR File 4 of 1894 - Note on the Land Revenue Settlement by Abbot, RWRS.

the system of cash rent per *bigha* to give full assurance to the *ryot* against fitful fluctuations. The tenure in Marwar was mostly Kabzawar, i.e. ryotwari. It attached responsibility to possession. Every body was responsible for the rent of the land he held. The *Darbar* dealt with the farmer directly. Hence the *bigori* system was most suitable. Besides, it gave flexibility to one's holdings. One could contract or enlarge one's holdings according to one's means.<sup>47</sup>

Two systems of assessment were adopted : (i) Fixed and (ii) Fluctuating. The secure land, the produce of which fluctuated but slightly, was assessed at fixed rates for a period of ten years. Provision was also made for remission in years of famine. The insecure land, locally called *barani*, which entirely depended on the rains with no certainty as to its annual yield, was subjected to fluctuating assessment. A standard *rent* being fixed, it varied in proportion to the actual output of the year <sup>48</sup>

The *parganas* were divided into circles with a view to determining revenue rates and their application to villages. Tracts possessing similar soil, climate, facilities for manure, means of cultivation and agricultural skill were grouped into separate circles. The basis of assessment was the old *batai* collections in kind with prevalent cesses (*lag-bags*). The amount, which the *Darbar* used to receive in kind or in cash, was taken as the standard. The gross yield was calculated from the results of crop experiments and local enquiries. The state demand was arrived at circlewise on the basis of these factors together with due regard for the *Darbar's* share of the produce and the cesses.<sup>49</sup> When the rates were thus arrived at, the state demand for the village was worked out, and checked by (i) average revenue of the previous years, (ii) revenue obtained when the *batai* system was in vogue, (iii) opinions of the local officers as to the rental capacity of the village, and (iv) the land rent proposed by the village *chaudharies*. The circle rates were, in consequence, moderated for being applied to its villages.<sup>50</sup>

47. (i) RSAJ, MK File 4/4 (1895) - Note on the Revenue Settlement of Marwar for 1894-95.

(ii) MAR (1893-94), Chap. V, Sec. IV, p. 23.

(iii) MAR (1894-95), Chap. IV, p. 21-2.

48. RSAJ, WRSR File 4 of 1894 - Note on the Land Revenue Settlement of Marwar by Sukhdeo Prasad.

49. (i) MAR (1894-95), Chap. IV, Sec. IV, p. 25.

(ii) Drake Brockman, op. cit., pp. 21 and 35-6.

50. (i) MAR (1894-95), Chap. IV, Sec. IV, p. 26.

(ii) Niranjan Swaroop, op. cit., Chap. V, p. 29.

A portion of the demand thus arrived at for a village was set apart for the *jao* holdings in accordance with the gradation list of the well lands, and the rest was distributed over the *barani* fields.<sup>51</sup> An all round rate was fixed for the *chahi* lands irrespective of the dry and wet cultivation of the *jao*. In other words, the entire area of a *jao* was subjected to a flat rate of *bigori*.<sup>52</sup> If the well was in a delapidated state or the holder was in an impoverished condition, his *jao* was assessed on a progressive rate to enable him to rebuild his shattered condition.<sup>53</sup>

The rates per acre of wet land varied from Rs. 2.35 to Rs. 10 (average Rs. 2.69), while those for dry land ranged from eight paise to seventy eight paise and averaged twenty one paise. These rates compared favourably with those prevalent in British territory with similar natural features.<sup>54</sup> *Rajputs*, whose women could not help them in out-door work or those, whose holdings had been recently transferred from rent free to assessable area, were granted concessional rates.<sup>55</sup>

Cultivators were acquainted with the demands both on well and dry lands. Almost every *khalsa* village was visited by the secretary in order to (i) ascertain if the cultivators were satisfied with the assessment, (ii) dispose of their objections on the spot, (iii) scrutinise the classification of soil and gradation of wet and dry lands and (iv) note the general conditions of the village and also whether a reservoir or well could be constructed with advantage.<sup>56</sup>

51. MAR (1894-95), Chap. IV Sec. IV, p. 27.

52. MAR (1894-95), Chap. IV Sec. IV, p. 26.

53. MAR (1894-95), Chap. IV Sec. IV, p. 27.

MARWAR		Average Revenue rates per Bigha			
Parganas	Secure	Insecure	Districts	Secure	Insecure
Sojat	Rs. 1.70	Rs. 0.28	Rohat	Rs. 0.99	Rs. 0.41
Bali	Rs. 1.82	Rs. 0.31	Karnal	Rs. 1.14	Rs. 0.41
Jaitaran	Rs. 0.79	Rs. 0.25	Gurgaon	Re. 1.05	Re. 0.48
Merta	Rs. 1.60	Re. 1.31	Rewari	Re. 1.08	Re. 50.40

In Marwar, there was no midman between the *Darbar* and the cultivator. In the British districts the tenants paid to the proprietors of land over and above the government demand. As a rule the proprietors received from the tenants as much as they paid to the government. Thus the highest average rent that a Marwar cultivator had to pay was Re. 1.41 per Bigha in Bali *pargana* and the minimum burden that a cultivator in British territory had to undergo was roughly Re. 1.9  $\times$  2 = 2.18 per Bigha in Rewari. Similarly, the rate on insecure land in Marwar was fixed lighter than that fixed in British territories.

(i) MAR (1894-95), Chap. IV Sec. IV, p. 28.

(ii) Sukhdeo Prasad The Final Report on the Famine Relief Operations in Marwar (1899-1900).

55. MAR (1894-95), Chap. IV, Sec. IV, p. 27.

56. (i) MAR 1894-95), Chap. IV Sec. IV, p. 27.

(ii) RSAJ, MK File 4.4 (894) Note on the Revenue Settlement of Marwar. 1894-95.

## Chapter IV

# CHANGE AND CONTINUITY IN ADMINISTRATION (1895-1923)

### Minority of Sardar Singh (1895-98)

During the reign of Jaswant Singh II the administration of the state was run by the *Musahib Ala* with the aid of a council, over which he presided. The unanimous decisions of the council were acted upon. In case of difference of opinion the president gave his decision and on significant points the sanction of the *Maharaja* was obtained<sup>1</sup>.

Sardar Singh was only fifteen years old at the time of his accession on October 24, 1895. On the recommendation of the Resident and the A.G.G. the Government of India approved of the prevalent system of administration with a slight modification to meet the needs of the minority. The *Musahib Ala* was designated as Regent. He continued to preside over the council which was henceforth styled Regency Council.<sup>2</sup> In order to strengthen his position the Resident left him with powers of initiative to introduce measures of reform.<sup>3</sup>

The young prince had been brought up under the care of Sir Pratap who trained him in manly habits. But friction was soon visible between them. Sir Pratap soon realised the value of the assistance that a European tutor could render in the situation. Capt. Mayne was appointed tutor to the *Maharaja* and he was gazetted as ex-officio Assistant to the Resident.

The period of regency brought with it little change in the affairs of the state. For most of the time the Regent was away, first as a representative of India at the Diamond Jubilee of Queen Victoria in London, and then as a member of the staff on Mohmand and Tirah campaigns. The only notable administrative

1. (i) Pr. 172 (RWRs) to AGG No. 5 P. d. Dec. 14, 1895) in For. Int. A Feb. 1896 No. 150-73.  
(ii) MAR (1894-95), Chap. II, p. 7.
2. (i) Pr. 173 (Secy. For. to AGG No. 382-I d. Jan. 1, 1876), loc. cit.  
(ii) MAR (1895-96), Chap. II, p. 14.
- (iii) Reu, op. cit., p. 494
3. Pr. 171 (AGG to Secy. For. No. 64 C. d. Jan. 9, 1896), and Pr. 173 (Secy. For. to AGG No. 382-I d. Jan. 1, 1896), loc. cit.

innovation during the three years was the introduction of the system of registration of documents relating to movable and immovable property.

### Investiture of Sardar Singh (1898)

During his minority the prince was increasingly associated with administration for being given an insight into it. He held charge of the land revenue department and tried judicial cases. When he was about to attain majority, he had attended for a year or so the meetings of the Regency Council. This acquainted him with different aspects of administration. With this background Sardar Singh like most young chiefs appeared fit to be invested with ruling powers.<sup>4</sup>

The policy of the paramount power was not to prolong minorities. There was a feeling in Jodhpur that the *Maharaja* ought to receive ruling powers at eighteen years of age. The Resident wisely initiated such a proposal. It was suggested that the prevalent system of administration should be maintained, and no major change be introduced without the Resident's advice. The *Maharaja* should consult him on all important matters and be guided in his decisions by the Resident. No measure of the Regency Council should be reversed without his concurrence. In the matter of appointment and powers of Sir Pratap's successor, the *Maharaja* should again be guided by him. A limit should be set on his personal expenditure to prevent extravagance. The services of Mayne as his companion should be retained.<sup>5</sup>

The A.G.G. and the foreign department of the Government of India welcomed these safeguards. But a direct reference to the exalted position of Sir Pratap and that of his successor could not have been in keeping with the dignity of the head of the state. It could lead to unpleasant consequences. Consultations on significant issues was a part of the existing system. The selection and powers of his successor was a significant matter and consultation with the Resident, who had dominating power, was unavoidable. These safeguards were, therefore, generalised<sup>6</sup>. It was succinctly recorded that no measure of the Regency Council would be altered nor any important change introduced in it without the approval of the Resident. The *Maharaja* could not act in any matter against

4. Pr. 174 (RWRS to AGG No. 2 p/d. d. Dec. 12, 1897) in For. Int. July, 1898 No. 173-89.

(ii) ARS (1896-97), WRSR Report, para 3, pp. 29-30.

(iii) MAR (1896-97), Chap. II, p. 3.

(iv) Reu, op. cit., Part II, p. 499.

5. (i) Pr. 173 (AGG to Secy. For. No. 17 C d. Jan. 7 1898), loc. cit.

(ii) Keepwiths, loc. cit.

his advice. His personal expenditure was subjected to a ceiling of Rs. 1,12,000. This was, however, not made public.<sup>6</sup> Services of Mayne were also retained.<sup>7</sup>

At a special *Darbar* held on February 18, 1898 Sardar Singh was invested with full ruling powers. Sir Robert Crosthwaite, A.G.G. fastened the *Sirpaich* on his head, put a necklace round his neck and handed him a sword signifying the investiture in this way.<sup>8</sup> The Viceroy in a personal letter to the *Maharaja* spoke highly of his uncle Sir Pratap in order to impress upon him to follow his advice. At the state banquet Crosthwaite drew a striking contrast between the state of affairs in Marwar then and that, which had obtained when Jaswant Singh had ascended the throne. Referring to the young *Maharaja* he said, "Fortunately, for him his uncle, Sir Pratap, and the council have ably managed the affairs, every thing is in an admirable order, and the *Maharaja* has an excellent and unbroken team to drive, and he has only to sit tight on the coach box and drive straight."<sup>9</sup>

#### Restoration of Malani (1898)

The occasion was also marked by the restoration to the Marwar *Darbar* of the full administration of the Malani district. It may be recalled that the sovereignty of the *Maharaja* over this district had been recognised by the paramount power and it pledged itself to restore *Malani* as soon as Marwar *Darbar* could give good government to it without British help. Takhat Singh time and again made representations for the restoration of this tract.<sup>10</sup> The Government of India in 1878 admitted that Marwar was better governed than before, but the administration was not strong and stable enough to inspire confidence.<sup>11</sup>

In 1890, Jaswant Singh again pressed the issue.<sup>12</sup> The administration of Marwar had undergone a marked improvement and was effective. The only point of doubt was whether the restora-

6. (i) Pr. 173 (AGG to Secy. For. 17 C. d. Jan. 7, 1898), loc. cit.  
(ii) Keepwiths to For. Int. A July, 1898 No. 173-89.
7. (i) Pr. 177 (Secy. For. to AGG No. 402-I. A. d. Feb. 11, 1898), loc. cit.
8. MAR (1897-98), Chap. II, p. 9.
9. (i) Keepwiths (D.O. d. Feb. 11, 1898 from Cunningham to Crosthwaite) loc. cit.  
(ii) MAR (1897-98), Chap. II, p. 11.
10. ut supra, p. 20.
11. (i) For. Pol. A. May, 1878 No. 356 and keepwiths to it.  
(ii) For. Pol. A. Oct. 1880 No. 124 (Bradford's Report on restoration of Malani).
12. Encl. to Pr. 80 (Jaswant Singh to Powlett d. Aug. 5, 1890) In For. Int., June, 1891 No. 79-85.

tion would be acceptable to *thakurs*. They had enjoyed prosperity during the five decades of British occupation and administration, and had not been taxed as heavily as the landholders in other parts of Marwar under the direct administration of the *Maharaja*.<sup>13</sup> It was, therefore, decided to restore Malani to Marwar by stages. The civil and revenue jurisdiction was transferred in 1891 to the Marwar Darbar on the conditions that the chief officials would be appointed with the approval of the Resident and no extra cess would be levied nor any addition made to *Faujbal*.<sup>14</sup>

Administration of Malani gave no cause for complaint during the next six years. Crime was kept down. With the introduction of Balotra-Shadipali Railway, which was to pass through the heart of Malani, its administration would be still easier. On the proposal initiated by the Resident, the criminal and police administration, retained in 1891, was also transferred to the Jodhpur Darbar. Malani again became an integral part of Marwar.<sup>15</sup>

Thus a stage was set for the new reign, but it was soon handicapped by fortuitous circumstances. The relations between the *Maharaja* and his uncle worsened. Youth and age could not pull on together. His companions were blind to the interests of the state. Famine of an unprecedented severity broke out in 1899-1900.<sup>16</sup> Sir Pratap left India on August 1, 1900 for participation in the China campaign.<sup>17</sup> The administration was left in the hands of a special committee of Pandit Sukhdeo Prasad and *Kaviraj* Muraridan. It presented all important papers to the *Maharaja*, and all its orders were signed by the Pandit as Secretary to the committee. Questions connected with the administration of finances were referred to the Resident.<sup>18</sup> The most important and bold innovations of this committee in the realm of administration were the execution of famine-relief operations on modern principles and the introduction of imperial currency.<sup>19</sup>

13. Keepwiths. loc. cit.

14. (i) Pr. 84 (Secy. For. to AGG No. 1185 G. d. March 14, 1891 and Pr. 85 (Secy. For. to AGG No. 2292-I d. May 30, 1891) in For. Int. A June 1891 No. 72-85.

(ii) Pr. 144 (AGG to Jaswant Singh d. Jan. 8) and Pr. 145 (Jaswant Singh to AGG d. June 18) in For. Int. A. Sept. 1891 No. 143-48.

(iii) MAR (1891-92), Chap. III, p. 5 and Chap. XVI, p. 66.

15. (i) Pr. 177 (Secy. For. to AGG No. 402-I. A d. Feb. 11) in For. Int. A July, 1898 No. 173-89.

(ii) MAR (1897-98), p. (i) and p. 12.

16. (i) MAR (1899-1900), Chap. VII, p. 5.

(ii) ut. infra, Chap. VI

17. (i) MAR (1900-1901), Chap. XXI, Sec. 2, p. 28.

(i) Van wart, op cit., pp. 122-23.

18. (i) For. Int. B Dec. 1900 No. 199 (RWRS to AGG No. 914 G. d. Nov. 1).

(ii) MAR (1901-02), Chap. I, p. 1.

19. (i) Reu, op. cit., pp. 500-01.

### Exclusion of Sardar Singh from administration (1905)

Meanwhile, circumstances took an unfortunate turn and Sardar Singh was excluded from administration in 1905. He was surrounded by men desirous of personal gain and advancement. They were blind to the interests of their chief and state. The *Maharani* was senior to him in age. She drank pretty hard and exercised unhealthy influence over the *Maharaja*. He was dragged by her into carousals. The *Maharani*, her vicious group and a few of his own favourites extracted from him favours and concessions.<sup>20</sup> During the winter of 1900 he was rendered almost an invalid by these excesses.<sup>21</sup> He had to go to Europe in May, 1901 for the benefit of his health.<sup>22</sup> During his absence the administration was carried on by a council of sixteen members under the supervision of the Resident.<sup>23</sup> Extravagance and indebtedness of the *Maharaja* amounting to Rs. 26,00,000 or so was discovered.<sup>24</sup> On his return he was deputed to the newly created Imperial Cadet Corps in the hope that its healthy work and discipline would render him strong enough to resist evil temptations.<sup>25</sup>

The unwieldy council had fallen into disrepute owing to the corruption and intrigues of its members. The district officials were incapable and corrupt for want of care in their selection and supervision by a central authority. The police force was also insufficient and inefficient to suppress crime. The Resident and the A.G.G. proposed to abolish the council and nominate Sukhdeo Prasad, Secretary to the *Mushaib Ala*, and one other officer as members of the *Mehkma Khas*. They would be in the absence of the *Maharaja* responsible to Sir Pratap, who might act with the aid and advice of the Resident.<sup>26</sup> Before this proposal materialised Sir Pratap succeeded to the *gaddi* of Idar.<sup>27</sup> In consequence the office of the *Musahib Ala* was abolished and Sukhdeo Prasad was elevated as Senior Member, *Mehkma Khas*.<sup>28</sup> The total abolition of the council was

20. Keepwith (Erskine to Thornton d. May 2) to For. Sec. 1, Sept. 190, 'No. 64-97.

21. Pr. 64 (AGG to Secy. For. No. 236 C. d. Feb. 2), loc. cit.

22. Keepwith (Thornton to Daly d. Aug. 13, 1901), loc. cit.

23. (i) For. Des. No. 83 Internal d. May 30, 1901 from Government of India to the Secy for the State of India.

(ii) MAR (1901-02), Chap. 1, p. 2.

24. Sub. Encl. to Encl. 1 to Pr. 64 (Sardar Singh to RWRS d. Jan. 5, 1901), loc. cit.

25. Pr. 28 (Government of India to Secy. of State for India No. 131 d. Aug. 27, 1903) in For. Sec. 1 Sept. 1903 No. 1-18.

26. Pr. 67 (Wylie to Sec. For. No. 14 p. d. Feb. 19) in For. Sec. 1 Sept. 1901 No. 64-67.

27. (i) MAR (1901-02), Chap. 1, p. 1.

(ii) Van Wart, op. cit., p. 133.

28. MAR (1902-03), Chap. 1, p. 5.



considered inexpedient by the A.G.G Martindale. It might lead to discontent. The council was, therefore, reconstituted as a consultative council with only four members: (i) The Resident (ii) Senior Member (iii) *Kaviraj* Muraridan as another officer and (iv) one of the leading *thakurs* by rotation for four months.<sup>29</sup>

This arrangement was made with the consent of the *Maharaja* <sup>30</sup> But he wanted to get rid of Sukhdeo Prasad. This infuriated Lord Curzon, who had visited Jodhpur on November 22, 1902. He concluded that if Sardar Singh's powers were not restrained, the government might be forced to deprive him of all powers <sup>31</sup> To add fuel to the fire Jennings, who had succeeded Erskine as Resident, fell into politics and levelled charges of moral turpitude against the *Maharaja*.<sup>32</sup> He was consequently withdrawn from the Imperial Cadet Corps in August, 1903 and kept at Pachmari in Madhya Pradesh for eighteen months or so under the supervision of Capt. Haig, I.M.S. During this period he was not allowed even to return to Jodhpur, much less participate in state affairs. The administration was conducted by the *Mehkma Khas* under the direct supervision of the Resident.<sup>33</sup>

### Restoration of the Maharaja's Powers

The tempestuous regime of Lord Curzon came to an end in 1905. With his departure the policy of interference in princely states was given up. Curzon's successor Lord Minto realised that the policy of interference was likely to reduce the loyalty of a prince and his subjects. At this very time reports sent by Major Haig about Sardar Singh from Pachmari were uniformly good. With the approval of the Secretary of State for India, the Governor-General-in-Council authorised Sardar Singh to return to Jodhpur and exercise specified powers in the administration of his state subject to the Resident's advice and powers of veto. The finances of the state were kept under the control of the Resident, and the personal

29. (i) Pr. 28 (Martindale AGG to Sec. No. 197-P d. Feb. 28) in For. May, 1902, No. 28-31.

(ii) MAR (1902-03), Chap. 1, p. 5.

30. Keepwith (Sardar Singh to Thornton d. Nov. 21, 1902 and Jan. 20, 1903) to For. Pol. May 1902, No. 28-31.

31. Pr. 33 (Secy. For. to AGG d. Dec. 18, 1902) in For. Sec. Int. A Jan. 1903 No. 24-33.

32. Pr. 4 (Martindale to Secy. For. d. May 10, 1903 with Encl.) in For. Sec. I Sept. 1903 No. 1-18.

33. (i) Pr. 18 (For. Despatch No. 131 of 1903 from Government of India to Secy. of State for India), loc. cit.

(ii) MAR (1902-03), Chap. 1, p. 1.

expenditure of the *Maharaja* under his private secretary Major Haig.<sup>34</sup>

On November 8, 1905 the *Maharaja* returned to Jodhpur and began participating in state affairs<sup>35</sup> The following year, a larger share of powers was allotted to him.<sup>36</sup> He exercised it with sense and judgement. This assuaged the feelings of the prince and his people. About this time the vigorous patriotic movement against the Partition of Bengal was in full swing. Protest meetings were held. British goods were boycotted. Anti-British feelings were ventilated all over the country. In face of such strains and stresses the paramount power adopted a policy of goodwill and supporting the princes in their authority and helping them. As part of such a programme, plenary powers were restored to Sardar Singh subject to the advice of the Resident. No measure adopted during the period of his exclusion from administration could be reversed. Besides, the finances of the state were yet kept under the defacto control of the Resident.<sup>37</sup>

In order to prevent penetration of awakening and new ideas in princely states the princes were asked to adopt stern measures against the patriotic movement. In his address on the visit of Lord Minto on November 1, 1908 to the capital of Marwar Sardar Singh under pressure had to express 'abhorrence and detestation of the useless seditious movements'. This utterance was followed by the withdrawal of the restraints that had been left on the powers of the *Maharaja*.<sup>38</sup>

In November, 1909 a law was enacted to penalise sedition, dissemination of seditious writings and giving shelter to the enemies of the British empire.<sup>39</sup> It was intended to check the incursion of the new trends of national spirit. The definition of the term sedition

34. (i) Pr. 6 (Secy. For. to AGG No. 5156-I.A. d. Oct. 9) in For. Sec. 1 Nov. 1905 No. 4-7.  
(ii) RSAJ, Document No 2 A Grievances (a) Political - Resident to Mehkma Khas, 132 P d. Nov 13, 1905.
35. (i) Pr. 7 (AGG to Secy For 232 P. d. Nov 6), loc. cit.  
(ii) MAR (1905-06), Chap. I, pp. 1-2.
36. (i) Pr. 9 (Secy. For. to AGG 4407-I. A d. Oct. 10 1906) in For. Sec. 1 8-9.  
(ii) MAR for the period ending Sept. 30, 1906, Chap 1, p. 1.  
(iii) RSAJ, Document 2 A Grievances (a) Political - Resident to Mehkma Khas 102 P d. Nov. 13-14, 1906.
37. (i) Pr. 1 (AGG to Secy. 203 P. d. Nov 24, 1907) and Pr. 2 (Dy. Secy. to AGG 60 I. A d Jan. 1, 1908) in For. Sec. 1 Feb. 1908 No 1-3.  
(ii) RSAJ, Document 2 A Grievances (a) Political Resident to Mehkma Khas 391 XIV 122 d. Jan., 1908.
38. (i) For. Int. May, 1909 No. 22.  
(ii) MAR (1908-09), Chap. I, p. 4.  
(iii) RSAJ, Haqiqat Khata Bahi 17 and 40, pp. 40 and 8.
39. (i) Marwar Gazette Vol. XIV 7 d. Nov. 14, 1909, pp. 51-3.  
(ii) MAR (1909-10), Chap. III, Sec. 11, p. 8.  
(iii) Marwar Code, Vol. II, p. 1675.

was made wide enough to bring into its purview even remotely suspected cases.<sup>40</sup> The *Maharaja* also urged upon his people the need of unswerving loyalty to the paramount power. He warned them against associating themselves with any seditious party or programme.<sup>41</sup> On December 9 newspapers suspected of misrepresenting the motives and actions of the supreme government and indulging in racial hatred and prejudice against the British were proscribed.<sup>42</sup>

In recognition of this co-operation Sardar Singh was bestowed upon the insignia of G.C.S.I. at the Viceroy's Calcutta Darbar on January 1, 1910.<sup>43</sup> Having thus won the confidence of the paramount power he looked forward for more favourable times to play a vital role in guiding the destiny of his state but fate willed otherwise. Sardar Singh passed away untimely on March 20, 1911 only at the age of thirty one.<sup>44</sup> His son and successor Sumer Singh aged twelve years only was sent to Wellington College for education with Capt. Strong as guardian. Sumer Singh was the first prince from Marwar to have been educated in the United Kingdom.

The sequence of events shows that the powers, position and dignity of the *Maharaja* suffered a decline during the decade. The gradual withdrawal of the restraints imposed upon him allayed his fears. In order to show his fidelity to the crown and please the paramount power drastic measures were adopted for preventing Marwar from becoming a shelter house for Revolutionaries and Terrorists. Marwar had otherwise not been so much influenced by new ideas and awakening.

It cannot, however, be denied that during this period of exclusion of and restraints on Sardar Singh's powers the state expenditure was kept low.<sup>45</sup> The strength of the Imperial Service Troops was reduced from 1200 to 732.<sup>46</sup> The Customs Code was revised and its circles were reorganised.<sup>47</sup> Expansion of railways, construction

40. Marwar Sedition Act (1909), Clauses 4-10.

41. (i) Marwar Gazette Vol. XLIV 7 d. Nov. 14, 1909, pp. 49-50.

(ii) MAR (1909-10), Chap. III, Sec. 11, pp. 8-9.

42. Ibid., p. 9.

43. (i) Marwar Gazette Vol. XLIV No. 16 Jan. 16, 1910, p. 123.

(ii) MAR (1909-10), Chap. III Sec. 11, pp. 9-10.

(iii) RSAJ, *Haqiqat Bahis* 41 and 42 pp. 42 and 102.

44. (i) Keepwiths (Telegram from AGG to Secy. For. d. March 20) to For. Sec. 1, Aug. 1911, No. 5-27.

(ii) Pr. 10 (Sumer Singh to Governor-General), loc. cit.

(iii) For. Int. B Feb. 1914, No. 235-37.

45. ARS (1904-05). WR-A Report, para 11, p. 17.

46. MAR (1903-04), Chap. XX Sec. I, p. 25.

47. (i) Ibid., Chap. 4 Sec. 27, p. 19.

(ii) MAR (April, 1906 to Sept. 1906), Chap. IV Sec. 27, p. 17.

of irrigation and other protective works were modestly undertaken.<sup>48</sup> The railway loan from Mysore, the government famine loan, other state debts and the personal debts of the *Maharaja* were steadily paid off.<sup>49</sup> Reserve funds for unforeseen purposes and famine were raised.<sup>50</sup> The departments of *thuggi* and *dakaiti* and criminal tribes were amalgamated and the police, reorganised.<sup>51</sup> Both the members of the *Mehkma Khas* visited *hakumats* and police stations.<sup>52</sup> The policy of retrenchment and reconstruction brought about a surplus of eighteen lacs of rupees, besides a cash balance of twelve lacs of rupees in the treasury for current transactions.<sup>53</sup> The financial stability and the credit of the state were restored and even augmented, but no schemes of public welfare and utility were undertaken. During the period of exclusion the state was not free from intrigues for which the conduct of the senior member, *Mehkma Khas*, and the Resident was not above reproach. The *Maharaja* was a creature of the circumstances around him.

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The administration at the time of Sumer Singh's accession was carried on subject to the control of the *Maharaja* by Sukhdeo Prasad, Minister of the *Mehkma Khas*, with the aid of his judicial secretary and assistant. The Consultative Committee exercised a make-believe influence.<sup>54</sup> During the minority following the death of Jaswant Singh, Sir Pratap was allowed to continue his administration with the support and advice of the Resident. Such an arrangement, which could afford continuity, was not possible this time for Sukhdeo Prasad, a Kashmiri *Brahman*, who rose from the position of a Boundary Settlement Superintendent to that of the Minister of

48. MAR (1907-08), Chap. V, Sec. 29, p. 50.

49. In 1898-99, a loan of Rs. 25,50,000 was taken from the Mysore Darbar for the construction of the Shadipali Balotra Railway. During the year following, Rs. 35,35,000 were borrowed from the supreme government for famine relief measures. Other debts amounted to Rs. 32,70,087.

(i) ARS (1904-05), WRSA Report, para 13, p. 12.

(ii) For. Int. A Aug. 1906 No. 66 (AGG to Secy. For. No. 227-90 d. July 11, 1906) and enclosures and keepwiths to it.

(iii) MAR (1907-08), Chap. 5 Sec. 29, p. 49.

(iv) MAR (1909-10), Chap. 5 Sec. 43, p. 42.

50. (i) MAR (1903-1904), Chap. XIX, para 120, pp. 21-22.

(ii) MAR (1905-06), Chap. V Sec. 29, p. 28.

(iii) MAR (1908-09), Chap. V Sec. 30, p. 33.

51. MAR (1905-06), Chap. III Sec. 8, p. 8.

52. (i) MAR (1904-05), Chap. 1 Sec. 3, p. 1.

(ii) MAR (1905-06), Chap. 1 Sec. 3, p. 2.

(iii) MAR (1908-09), Chap. 1 Sec. 4, p. 7.

53. Pr. 12 (Pinhey to Butler No. 196 d. June 11) in For. Int. A July, 1909 No. 11-12.

54. Pr. 173 (Secy. For. to AGG No. 382 -I d. Jan. 1) in For. Int. A Feb. 1896 150-74.

the state could not represent the Marwar nobility even though a double *tazim* and a *jagir* of Rs. 25,000 had been bestowed upon him.<sup>55</sup>

Elliot Colvin, A.G.G., therefore, in consultation with the Resident proposed the abolition of the consultative committee and the reconstruction of the *Mehkma khas* by the formation of a five member council, which should include :

- |   |                              |
|---|------------------------------|
| 1. <i>Maharaj</i> Zalim Singh,<br>uncle of the late chief                             | Senior Member                |
| 2. <i>Maharaj</i> Fateh Singh<br>cousin of the late chief                             | Second Member                |
| 3. <i>Thakur</i> Mangal Singh,<br>premier noble of Marwar                             | P.W.D. and Railway<br>Member |
| 4. Munshi Harnam Dass<br>who had been junior member,<br><i>Mehkama Khas</i> (1907-09) | Judicial Member              |

Sukhdeo Prasad should have also been included and given a place next to *thakur* Mangal Singh in the council. He had wielded both authority and power in the state. His motto was : *L'ett, C'est moi*. His inclusion was liable to disturb the equilibrium of authority and disrupt the council. Colvin, therefore, proposed to drop the pilot and appoint in his place Shyam Bihari Misra as revenue member. As assistant commissioner in the United Provinces, he had acquired rich experience in revenue work. This council was kept under the general control of the Resident, who presided over it. He would also retain with himself the portfolio of finance.<sup>56</sup>

Sir Pratap, who had succeeded to the *gaddi* of Idar state, came forward to serve his ancestral house as regent during the minority of his grand nephew Sumer Singh with the aid of British officers. So keen was he to serve the land of his birth, the destiny of which he had guided for two decades that he was willing to addicate the *gaddi* of Idar in favour of his son, if the chief of one state could not be regent of another state.<sup>57</sup> To the A.G.G. this

55. (i) Pr. 11 (AGG to Secy. For. d. April 14) in For. Sec. I Aug. 1911  
(ii) Reu, op cit., Vol. II, 511.

56. Ibid

57. (i) Keepwiths (Maharaja Idar to Mc Mahon, Secy. For. d. April 21, 1911),  
loc cit.  
(ii) Encl. 3 to Pr. 12 (Maharaja Idar to Colvin, AGG d. April 13, 1911),  
loc cit.

proposal appeared neither in the interest of the state nor in that of the new *Maharaja*. Sir Pratap was sixty six years old and could not be as vigorous and active as he was formerly. He might give up regency ere long and dislocate the set up. Besides, the relations between the uncle and the nephew had been strained and Lord Curzon had put on record in 1903 that Sir Pratap should not be allowed to set his foot in Marwar. If Sir Pratap assisted by British officers were to guide the fortunes of Marwar, the Resident would not be able to control effectively the administration, for which he had a special responsibility during the period of minority.<sup>58</sup>

Sir Pratap met the Governor-General and impressed upon him his stand.<sup>59</sup> *Maharaja* Ganga Singh of Bikaner lent diplomatic support to Sir Pratap. He presented a grim picture of Jodhpur affairs to the Governor-General.<sup>60</sup> After discussing the entire situation with the A.G.G., he came to the conclusion that Sir Pratap had an admirable record of loyalty and good service, and he had been misrepresented to Curzon. As regent, he would be able to revive among the Jodhpur nobles a constructive spirit and exercise on them a healthy influence, which was essential for strengthening administration. These arguments together with the local pressure influenced the Governor-General to appoint Sir Pratap as Regent. It lay in the logic of history, but adequate safeguards were taken for good administration.<sup>61</sup> Sir Pratap agreed to abide by the advice of the Resident, not to make changes in the Regency Council and not to incur expenditure beyond budget-grant without specific reference to him. He also agreed to appoint a British officer as tutor to the *Maharaja* who should be educated for two years in Britain.<sup>62</sup> On receipt of sanction from the Government of India on May 23, 1911 the A.G.G. announced the Council of Regency consisting of:—

1. Maharaj Sir Pratap Singh	Regent
2. Maharaj Zalim Singh	Military Member
3. Thakur Mangal Singh of Pokran	Public Works Member
4. G F. Goyder	Finance Member
5. Harnam Dass	Judicial Member

58. Pr. 12 (AGG to Secy. For. d. April 25, 1911), loc. cit.

59. (i) Keepwiths (Secy. For. with Viceroy to For. Dept. d. March 30, 1911), loc. cit.

(ii) Keepwiths (Notes on letter d. April 8, 1911 from Sir Pratap to Secy. For.), loc. cit.

60. Keepwiths (Maharaja of Bikaner to Mc Mahon, Secy. For. d. April 20, 1911), loc. cit.

61. Keepwiths (Mc Mahon, Secy. For. to Colvin, AGG d. May 9), loc. cit.

62. Keepwiths (Colvin to Sir Pratap d. May 12, 1911), loc. cit.

Besides them, three *thakurs* were appointed as advisory members. They attended meetings only when *jagir* and *thikana* cases were discussed.<sup>63</sup> The powers of the council and its individual members were defined. The council was made the final authority in all matters of administration subject to the general control of the Regent and the conditions of regency. Members would get budget estimates prepared for the departments in their portfolio. The finance member would submit the state budget for the consideration of the council and approval of the Resident. Powers of appointment, postings and removal of superior officers were vested in the council.<sup>64</sup> The following year, the position of the Regent was made stronger and more definite by making some modifications and revision in the powers of the council.<sup>65</sup> It was advised to avoid grants of immovable property and alienation of land. Sukhdeo Prasad was pensioned off at Rs. 1,500 per month upto the age of sixty years.<sup>66</sup>

### Evolution of Judiciary

The most noteworthy reform introduced by the Regency Council was the reorganisation of the judicial system of the state. The Marwar Chief Court consisting of three judges was constituted in order to provide an independent and strong judiciary.<sup>67</sup> On the advice of the Resident and the A.G.G., A.D.C. Barr, District and Sessions Judge, Amraoti (Maharashtra), was appointed as Chief Judge.<sup>68</sup> Laxmi Dass Sapat, who was officiating as judicial member, and *Thukur* Vijay Singh of Rian were appointed puisne judges.<sup>69</sup> Consequent upon the opening of the Chief Court the

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63. (i) Pr. 23 (AGG to Secy. For. 14 P. d. June 24, 1911) in For. Sec. 1 Aug. 1911 No. 5-27.  
 (ii) Marwar Gazette, Vol. XLV 35 d. May 28, 1911 p. 273-74.
64. (i) RSAJ, MK File 19 Part I of 1912 Powers of the Council and Conduct of Business.  
 (ii) Encl. to No. 52 (Regulation of the powers and conduct of business of the Council) in For. Int. A June 1912 No. 52-54.
65. (i) Pr. 52 (AGG to Secy. 107-57 d. May 3, 1912) and (Secy. For. to AGG in For. Int. A June, 1912 No. 52-54.  
 (ii) RSAJ, MK File 19 Part I of 1912, loc. cit.
66. Gehlot, op. cit., pp. 239-40
67. (i) Pr. 55 For. Secy. to AGG 1188 -I. A d. June 1, 1912) in For. Sec. 1 June, 1912 No. 52-55.  
 (ii) Marwar Gazette Vol. XLVII 8 d. Nov. 23, 1912, p. 66.
68. (i) Pr. 174 (Secy. For. to AGG) in For. Aug. 1912 No. 173-74.  
 (ii) For. Est. Aug. 1912 No. 267-68 part B.  
 (iii) MAR (1912-13), Chap. 1 Sec. 4, p. 3.
69. (i) Pr. 51 (AGG to For. Secy. 1463 C d. Nov. 25, 1912 in For. Int. A Dec. 1922 No. 51-22.  
 (ii) MAR (1912-13), Chap. 1, P. 3.

office of the judicial member was abolished,<sup>70</sup> but subsequently, Barr was appointed an additional member of the Council of Regency.<sup>71</sup> The Appellate Court and the *Tamil* Court, which sat only for the execution of decrees, were also done away with, and in their place an additional civil court and an additional criminal court were set up. Besides, for the inspection of *hakumat* courts and for the relief of people involved in petty litigation the whole state was divided into four circles, each under a superintendent vested with civil and criminal powers.<sup>72</sup> There were thus the following *Darbar* courts in Marwar at the end of 1913<sup>73</sup> :—

(i) <i>Hakumat</i> courts	22	(ii) Courts of circle superintendents.	4
(iii) Jodhpur <i>kotwali</i>	1	(iv) <i>Haisiat</i> court	1
(v) Criminal courts	3	(vi) Civil courts	2
(vii) Court <i>sardaran</i>	1	(viii) Chief Court	1

The two additional criminal courts were abolished in 1913-14; *Sankra hakumat*, in 1917 and the *Haisiat* court was amalgamated with the Court of Wards in August, 1918<sup>74</sup>

With the opening of the Chief Court the jurisdiction and powers of all the courts were defined. The *hakumats*, which constituted the lowest courts, could on the civil side try suits of monetary value not exceeding Rs. 500 and on the criminal side they could inflict a maximum sentence of six months' imprisonment of any description and a fine upto Rs. 200. The circle superintendent in the beginning had no original jurisdiction but he was empowered to hear appeals against the decisions of the *hakims* in suits of a monetary value not exceeding Rs. 200. On the criminal side he used to function as a first class magistrate. He was also entrusted with the duty of inspecting *hakumat* courts of his circle and bringing their irregularities to the notice of the Chief Court and the judicial member.

The two criminal courts had the powers of an assistant sessions judge and could inflict punishment of imprisonment for life

70. Pr. 55 (Sec. For. to AGG 1188-1. A d. June 1, 1922) in For. Sec. 1 June, 1912, No. 52-55.

71. (i) Pr. 52 (Secy. For. to AGG 2564 I. A d. Dec. 1912) in For. Inr. A Dec. 1912, No. 51-52.

(ii) MAR (1912-13), Chap. 1 Sec. 4, p. 3.

72. (i) MAR (1912-13), Chap. 1 Sec. 4, p. 3.

(ii) Reu, op. cit., Vol. II, p. 521.

73. MAR (1912-13), Chap. III Sec. 11, p. 15.

74. (i) MAR (1913-14), Chap. III Sec. 21, p. 25.

(ii) MAR (1917-18), Chap. III, p. 15.

(iii) MAR (1916-17), Chap. III, p. 10.





and fine upto Rs. 2,000. They could also hear appeals against the decisions of the *hakims*.

The two civil courts had original jurisdiction in suits of the money value of over Rs. 500 and not exceeding Rs. 10,000 and had also powers of hearing appeals against the decisions of the *hakims* in suits in which the claims exceeded Rs. 200. The superintendents were in 1917 empowered to try original civil cases, of the value between Rs. 500 and Rs. 1,000 in order to remove congestion in civil courts.

The court *sardaran* was a civil court presided over by a superintendent. Every case, in which at least either of the parties was a *Rajput*, was tried in this court regardless of the value of the subject matter of the suit.

The Chief Court was on the civil side empowered to hear original suits of money value exceeding Rs. 10,000 with an appeal in such cases to the full bench of the court. It also heard appeals against the decisions of the civil court and circle superintendents both in original suits and in appeals. In *jagir* adoption and other important *jagir* cases the recommendations of the Chief Court were referred to the Regency Council. On the criminal side the Chief Court heard appeals against the decisions of the criminal courts and circle superintendents. The Chief Court was empowered to inflict any punishment allowed by law. Cases of capital punishment and imprisonment for life required confirmation by the Regency Council. Cases of serious offences were so long submitted to the *Melkma Khas* through the criminal and the appellate courts. Accused persons were thus sometimes kept for years under trial in jail or hovering round the courts on heavy bail. Such cases were enquired into by the *hakims* and then committed for trial direct to the Chief Court. It held criminal sessions in the beginning of every month for the disposal of these cases. This was indeed a distinct improvement on the old state of things.<sup>75</sup>

Besides, the Marwar Civil Procedure Code of 1886 and Criminal Procedure Code of 1887 were repealed, and in their place the Marwar Civil Procedure Code and the Marwar Criminal Procedure Code, both of 1913, were brought into force. They were adopted

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75. (i) Sub Encl. 1 to Pr. 54 (Rules for the guidance of the Marwar Darbar Courts) in For. Sec 1 June 1912 No 52-5.  
 (ii) Marwar Gazette Vol. XLVII 8 d. Nov. 23, 1912, p 66.  
 (iii) MAR (1912-13), Chap. 1, p. 16.  
 (iv) MAR (1917-18), Chap. III, p. 16.

from the British Indian codes with such modifications as suited local conditions.<sup>76</sup>

In order to provide the courts with competent presiding officers, graduates were picked up as *hakims*. They were trained for a year or so under the direction of the Chief Judge and then posted to *hakumats*.<sup>77</sup> System and despatch were infused in the working of the courts.<sup>78</sup> Work was simplified and uniform registers and forms were introduced for all the subordinate courts.<sup>79</sup> Rules for serving of processes and summonses were framed.<sup>80</sup> The Chief Judge inspected *pargana* courts and pointed out the irregularities on the spot.<sup>81</sup> Thus steady improvement was visible in the administration of justice in the *Darbar* courts.

The law relating to the judicial powers of the *jagirdars* was amended and consolidated in 1915. The gradation of powers remained unchanged, but appeals from the decisions of the *thikana* courts henceforth lay to the chief court. It could refer such appeals to any civil court subordinate to itself. In case of serious offences the *thikanas* were to call in the aid of the *Raj* police from the nearest police station. It made the investigation jointly with the *thikana* police. The accused were committed after a preliminary magisterial inquiry by the *thikana* court.<sup>82</sup> In 1916, forty nine *thikanas* exercised judicial powers.<sup>83</sup>

76. MAR (1912-13), Chap. III Sec. 9, p. 9.

77. (i) MAR (1913-14), Chap. III Sec. 8, p. 11

(ii) RSAJ, Misra Shyam Bihari, A Glimpse into the History and Administration of the Jodhpur State (Feb. 1914) p. 21.

78. (i) MAR (1913-14) Chap. III Sec. 8, p. 11.

(ii) Misra, op cit., p. 21.

79. MAR (1913-14), Chap. III Sec. 8 p. 11.

80. MAR (1913-14), Chap. III Sec. 8, p. 11.

81. MAR (1913-14), Chap. III Sec. 8, p. 11.

82. Marwar Gazette, Vol. L (5), No. 19 d. Feb. 12, 1916, p.

83. *Thikanas/Maharajs* exercising first class powers :—

(i) Maharaj Zalim Singh	(ii) Maharaj Fateh Singh
(iii) Maharaj Arjun Singh	(iv) Maharaj Ratan Singh
(v) Pokran	(vi) Auwa
(vii) Ahore	(viii) Asop
(ix) Chandawal	(x) Kantalia
(xi) Raipur	(xii) Nimbaj
(xiii) Ras	(xiv) Kuchaman
(xv) Rian	(xvi) Ghanerao
(xvii) Chanod	(xviii) Jawla
(xix) Khairwa	(xx) Bagari
(xxi) Khejarla	(xxii) Alaniawas
(xxiii) Bhadrarjun	(xxiv) Minda
(xxv) Balunda	(xxvi) Jasnagar
(xxvii) Khinwar.	

*Thikanas* exercising second class powers :

(i) Khinwara	(ii) Mithri	(iii) Ren	(iv) Samdari
(v) Rohat	(vi) Lambia	(vii) Dodiana	(viii) Sathin
(ix) Ladnu	(x) Jhalamand	(xi) Gorao	(xii) Sankhwas

*Thikanas* exercising third class powers :

(i) Harsolao	(ii) Bhenswara	(iii) Daspan	(iv) Khudala
(v) Bakra	(vi) Lawera	(vii) Bera	(viii) Sanderao
(ix) Badgaon	(x) Sena.		

While the whole judicial system was thus being overhauled attempt was made by Barr to eradicate inefficient legal aid. Most of the legal practitioners lacked professional knowledge, and the people derived little assistance from them. Their employment was in fact a menace to justice. It was, therefore, laid down that *only those persons, who had passed an examination in the law of the land, could plead in the courts.* The first such examination was held in January, 1913. Henceforth such examinations were held twice a year in April and October. Consequently, the number of legal practitioners was reduced from five hundred to eighty. Successful *vakils* were graded in two classes. Those in the first class could appear both in the Chief Court and the subordinate courts. Those in the second class could appear only in courts other than the Chief Court. The *thakurs* could continue to have their cases represented by their own *vakils* and the firms by their recognised *munims* and agents. The sudden reduction in the number of legal practitioners led the qualified pleaders to charge exorbitant fee Courts were, therefore, authorised to check the amount of fee paid to them by the litigants.<sup>84</sup>

These reforms proved beneficial to the people and steadily restored their faith in the administration of justice. After their consolidation in a few years the government could take up another scheme which overhauled and modernised the judicial structure of the state from 1923.

The Chief Court was relieved of its original jurisdiction, both civil and criminal, and it became a purely appellate court. Court *Sardaran*, *Adalat Diwani* and *Adalat Faajdari* were abolished and three district and sessions courts with co-ordinate jurisdiction were established in their place at Jodhpur.<sup>85</sup> On the civil side they could try original suits from the *parganas* of the value of Rs. 2001 and over, and from Jodhpur city and its suburbs of the value of Rs. 501 and over and suits relating to adoption among *jagirdars*. On the criminal side they conducted trial of all offences brought before them

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84. (i) MAR (1912-13), Chap. I, p. 3.

(ii) RSAJ, Misra, op. cit., p. 21.

(iii) Asopa, op. cit., p. 322.

(iv) Reu, op. cit., p. 521.

85. (i) Supplement to Marwar Gazette, Vol. LVIX 39 d. June 28, 1924, p. 1

(ii) MAR (1923-24), Chap. III, p. 17.

(iii) Gehlot, op. cit., p. 437.

or committed to them and appeals against convictions passed by lower courts<sup>86</sup>

The civil powers of the judicial superintendents were raised from Rs. 1,000 to Rs. 2,000.<sup>87</sup> Newly recruited *naib-hakims*, who were under training, were vested with third class magisterial powers and powers to try monetary suits upto the value of Rs. 200. Besides, two honorary courts were opened at Jodhpur to relieve *Darbar* courts of petty cases and ensure their speedier disposal.<sup>88</sup>

### Reform fo Police

The constitution of the police force under the *Mehkma Girai* answered well to the needs of the time. Before it could be consolidated fully, the organisation of the Imperial Service Regiments distracted *Raj's* attention from it. The strength of the police force was considerably cut down to appropriate finances for raising the Corps d'elite.<sup>2</sup> Consequent upon this reduction in constabulary the police had to work through informers for detection of crime.<sup>3</sup> As a system, it was both inadequate and defective and led to revival of crimes in the state. From 1891 to 1903 there was a marked increase of crime and decrease in police efficiency.<sup>91</sup> The Foreign Department of the Government of India did not and could not relish such a situation.<sup>92</sup> The Resident, Western Rajputana States, who was from August, 1903 chiefly responsible for the administration of Marwar, discussed the question of thorough reform and

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86. District and Sessions Court No. 1 had jurisdiction over the *parg nas* of Barmer, Shiv, Shergarh, Pachpadra, Siwana, Phalodi, Jodhpur and Railway limits; Court No. 2 over the *parganas* of Jaitaran, Sambhar, Parbatsar, Didwana, Nagaur, Bilara and Merta; and Court No. 3 over Sojat, Pali, Bali, Desuri, Jalore, Jaswantpura and anchore.
- (i) Supplement to Marwar Gazette, Vol. LVIX No. 39 dt. June 28, 1924.
- (ii) MAR (1923-24), Chap. III, p. 17.
- (iii) *Reu*, op. cit., Vol. II, p. 548.
87. The territorial jurisdiction of the judicial superintendents was as under :—
1. Phalodi circle - Siwana, Shergarh, Phalodi, Jodhpur and Bilara.
  2. Sambhar circle - Sambhar, Merta, Didwana, Nagaur and Parbatsar.
  3. Sojat circle - Sojat, Pali, Bali, Desuri, Jaitaran and Jalor.
  4. Malani circle - Barmer, Shiv, Jaswantpura, Sanchoe and Pachpadra.
- (i) Supplement to Marwar Gazette Vol. LVIX No. 39 d. June 28, 1924, p. 4 cl. VII and VIII.
- (ii) MAR (1923-24), Chap III, p. 17
88. (i) Supplement to Marwar Gazette Vol. LVIX No. 39 d June 28, 1924, p 4 cl. VII and VIII.
- (ii) MAR (1923-24), Chap III, p. 17.
89. (i) Pr 122 (RWRS to AGG) in For. Sec. I Feb. 1835 No. 121-23 and keepwths to it.
- (ii) Sukhdeo Prasad, Crime and Punishment in Marwar (1895), pp. 6 and 8
90. Erskine, op. cit., Chap. XVIII, p. 160.
91. Ibid., pp. 160-61.
92. (i) Keepwths to For. Sec. I Aug. 1895 No. 121-23 (Police and Imperial Service Troops in Marwar).
- (ii) Keepwths to For. Sec. Sep., 1901 No. 64,97.

effectual reorganistaion of the state police with Major Daly, Deputy Secretary to the Government of India in the Foreign Department and C. Brown, Inspector General of Police, Panjab. There was none in the state fit for or capable of managing much less organising the state police. The services of Sardar Shamsheer Singh of the Panjab Police Service were secured on loan from March 1904.<sup>93</sup>

The new Inspector General visited all important places and *parganas* to acquaint himself with the existing police administration, and its future requirements. He prepared a scheme of reform. Having been examined by the *Mehkma Khas* and the Resident, it was introduced from October 1904.<sup>94</sup>

Marwar was divided for police administration into four *districts*, Northern, Eastern, Southern and Western, each in charge of a superintendent of police. An additional superintendent was provided for the control of the police lines at Jodhpur, where a reserve of one hundred ready men for urgent duty was maintained. Each district was again divided into circles, each having a circle inspector at its head with a number of *thanas* (police stations) and *chowkis* (posts) under him. The *thanas* were headed by subinspectors and the *chowkis* by *hawaldars* and *naiks* subordinate to them.<sup>95</sup> Under the new scheme there were seventy *thanas* and one hundred and twenty eight *chowkis* as against fifty five *thanas* which had existed since 1904. The *thanas* were divided into three classes on the basis of their rank and file.<sup>96</sup> Under the reorganised scheme the force consisted of 2089 of all ranks and included the Inspector General, five district superintendents, two assistant superintendents, nineteen circle inspectors, seventy eight subinspectors, and one hundred and seventy mounted police. For the speedy pursuit of dacoits in the sand and sparsely populated districts camel *sowars* were added.<sup>97</sup> All the members of the police force upto the rank of subinspectors were provided uniforms free of cost as a first issue.<sup>98</sup> The *thuggi and dacoity* department was amalgamated with the police department and the department of criminal tribes was placed under the supervision and control of the the Inspector General of Police owing to its

93. No. 622 G. d. Sept. 17, 1903 from RWRS to AGG in For. Gen. B. Feb. 1904. No. 1-2.

94. (i) RSAJ, MK Police File Part I No. G. 293/F. d. April 4, 1907 from the IGP to MK.

(ii) MAR (1904-05), Chap. III Sec. 8, p. 5.

95. (i) RSAJ, Rules for the guidance of Marwar Police and the Criminal Courts p. 1.

96. (i) MAR (1905-06), Chap. III Sec. 8, p. 8.

(ii) For. Sec. March, 1909 No. 242 (Reorganisation of Marwar Police).

97. MAR (1907-08), Chap. III Sec. 8, p. 14.

98. MAR (1907-08), Chap. III Sec. 8, p. 8.

community of aims, but the *hakims* were relieved of district police administration. They were henceforth connected with it only as magistrates.<sup>99</sup> Enlistment was confined to the subjects of the state irrespective of caste and creed. All new recruits were to be between the ages of eighteen and twenty five and at least 5' 3" in height.<sup>1</sup> They had to undergo a test of physical fitness. All appointments were made in consultation with the Inspector General of Police. While proposing appointments he drew comparative statements giving age qualifications, previous service and pay of candidates together with reasons for selection in consultation with the senior member, Mehkma Khas.<sup>2</sup>

The police force mainly drawn from the state material could not cope with the work for want of detective ability. Experienced instructors were employed to train the local police in the prevention and detection of crime. With a view to introducing trained personnel in the ranks, two youths were sent every year from 1907-08 to Phillour Police Training School.<sup>3</sup>

A register of convicts was introduced to draw the attention of the courts towards bad characters for being administered deterrent punishment.<sup>4</sup> The entire administrative work was as yet centralised in the office of the Inspector General. In order to enable him to move about and maintain supervision over the force by constant inspections, some powers were delegated to the district superintendents. Stricter discipline was introduced in 1908.<sup>5</sup>

*Jagirdars* exercising first class criminal powers were allowed to retain their police powers. They were held responsible for detection and investigation of all offences other than heinous crimes. They had to keep registers and records, which the district superintendent could inspect.<sup>6</sup>

Discipline among the lower ranks and professional knowledge among the higher ones was still lacking. It was the turn of G.A. Cocks to make far reaching improvements in the internal working of the department. He had taken over the charge as I.G.P. after reversion of Shamsher Singh to the Panjab service. He punished

99. (i) RSAJ, Rules for the guidance of Marwar Police and Criminal Courts, p. 1.

(ii) MAR (1905-06), Chap. III Sec. 8, pp. 6 and 8.

1. Ibid. p. 8.

2. RSAJ, MK Police File Part I Note d, July 28, 1905 by RWRS.

3. MAR (1907-08), Chap. III Sec. 8 p. 13.

4. MAR 1905-06, Chap. III Sec. 8, p. 8.

5. MAR (1907-08), Chap. III Sec. 28, p. 16.

6. MAR (1905-08), Chap. III Sec. 8, p. 8.

remissness in duty and rewarded good work.<sup>7</sup> The Police Manual was brought out in 1915, and more comprehensive reports and returns about police force and crimes were obtained from every police station and circle.<sup>8</sup> *Hawaldars* and *naiks* were designated as head constables and constables on the British pattern.<sup>9</sup>

The most important reform introduced by Cocks was the redistribution of the territorial jurisdiction of the *thanas* shifting them to convenient centres. Under the reforms of 1905 the areas assigned to numerous *thanas* in Marwar ranged from 560 sq. kms. in the more densely populated tracts to 2240 sq. kms. in the sandy deserts. In accordance with his scheme, which could be enforced only in bits because of the dislocation caused by famine and war, the number of *thanas* and *chowkis* was rationalised by 1918 to eighty three and seventy five and by 1923 to eighty four and one hundred and four.<sup>10</sup> That year, the strength of the police force was 2467 - 135 officers, 1420 rank and file foot and 912 rank mounted.<sup>11</sup> It provided one police man over 22.7 sq kms. and 1190 persons in 1915.<sup>12</sup>

Another factor, which militated against the achievement of efficiency in force, was undoubtedly its heterogeneous character. For many years the inadequate strength of the constabulary used to be supplemented by men of the *Jagir Jamiat* and the Sumer Camel Corps. They had no uniform nor any equipment. They could merely be detailed for duty by the I.G.P. while otherwise their leave, transfer, punishments and promotions were under the control of the *Jagir Bakshi* and the Military Department. As a result of this divided control, discipline in this militia was absent. These adjuncts to the force could not render any real police service. Nothing by way of training had been imparted to them. In order to get rid of them and recruit right type of men in their place, Cocks demanded an additional budget-grant equivalent to the emolu

7. MAR (1913-14), Chap. III Sec. 19, pp. 20-21.

8. (i) MAR (1914-15), Chap. III Sec. 11, p. 7.

(ii) MAR (1914-15), Chap. III Sec. 17, p. 13.

9. (i) RSAJ, MK Police Organisation File Note on the Police Scheme by Cocks d. Nov. 12, 1915

(ii) MAR (1918-19 to 20-21), Appendix IV.

10. (i) MAR (1913-14), Chap. III Sec. 19, pp. 23, 24.

(ii) MAR (1914-15), Chap. III Sec. 17, p. 13.

(iii) MAR (1915-16), Chap. III Sec. 18, p. 20.

(iv) MAR (1917-18), Appendix IV.

(v) MAR (1922-23), Appendix IV.

11. The officers included I.G.P. (1) D.I.G.P. (1), Superintendents (8), Inspectors, (21) and Subinspectors (104).

(ii) MAR (1922-23), Appendix IV.

13. (i) MAR (1914-15), Appendix IV.

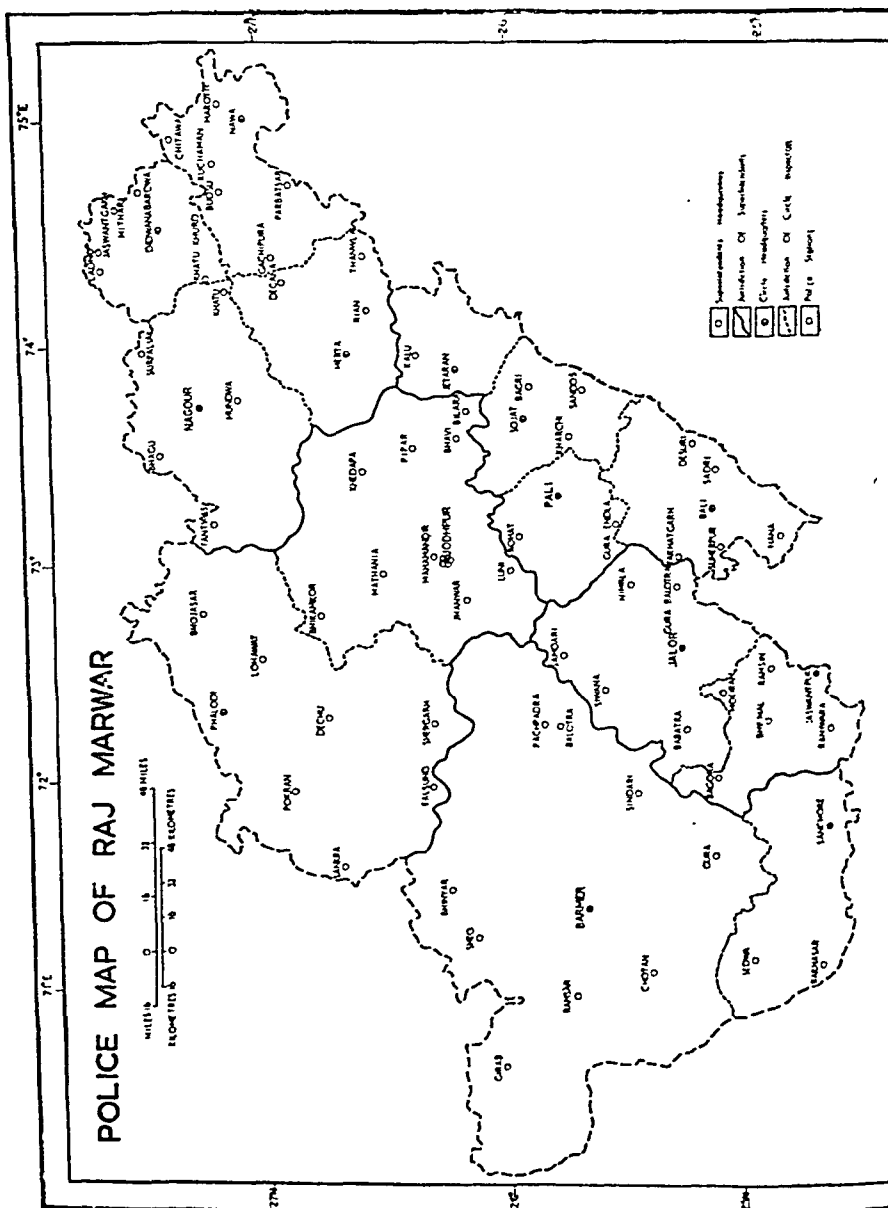
(ii) MAR 1622-23), Appendix IV.



## POLICE MAP OF RAJ MARWAR

0 5 10 15 20 25 30 35 40 MILES  
 0 5 10 15 20 25 30 35 40 KILOMETRES

- ( ) Separated cities, Headquarters  
 [ ] Jurisdiction Of Superintendent  
 [ ] City Headquarters  
 [ ] Jurisdiction Of Chief Magistrate  
 [ ] Police Station



ments of such *sowars* and footmen. It was approved inspite of strenuous opposition from the Military Member.<sup>13</sup> The *jagir* militia was gradually weeded out by commutation of *chakri* into money payment. The Sumer Camel Corps was disbanded in 1922 after Cocks' departure.<sup>14</sup> Its men were provided for in various departments. The best among the disbanded officers and men were enrolled in the police.<sup>15</sup>

Thus both Samsher Singh and Cocks, I.P., did much to raise the efficiency of the state police and left it vastly different from the force which they had taken over. But no headway was made in the suppression of serious crime. The number of crimes as a whole was high and that relating to robbery and dacoity, particularly alarming.<sup>16</sup> The services of M. R. Kothawala were obtained from the Bombay government to concert measures for the extermination of outlawry. He took over charge on May 13, 1920, and earnestly applied himself to the task of fighting the forces of disorder. He established police outposts at strategical points on the border and organised a special police force which by its pluck, patience and Perseverance succeeded within two years in breaking three notorious gangs of dacoits.<sup>17</sup> For the first exploit a sum of Rs. 15,500 was earned as a reward by the Marwar Police from the Baroda State, and a glowing tribute from the Viceroy and Governnor-General of India.<sup>18</sup>

A great deal of the efficiency of a force depends on its personnel and their emoluments. In 1914, the pay of a constable was fixed at Rs. 7 a month. Within two years of Kothawala's arrival it was almost doubled.<sup>19</sup> Urgent representations were made for the increase of salary of superior officers. Sporadic efforts to tackle the housing problem for police stations were made both by Shamsher Singh and Cocks, but much could not be done. In the early twenties the scheme was put on a regular and definite basis of

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13. (i) RSAJ, MK Police Organisation File Police Scheme by Cocks, d. Nov. 12, 1915 and No. 1731/1/3 d. April 14, 1915 from the I.G.P.  
(ii) *ut infra*, p. 88.
  - (iii) Kishanpuri, *Memoirs of Marwar Police* (1936), pp. 202-10.
  14. (i) MAR (1921-12), Chap. III, p. 19.  
(ii) MAR (1922-23), Chap. III, p. 20.
  15. *Ibid.*
  16. (i) MAR (1918-19 to 20-21), Appendix (a).  
(ii) Kishanpuri, *op. cit.*, pp. 8-9.
  17. (i) MAR (1918-19 to 20-21), Chap. III, pp. 23-24.  
(ii) MAR (1921-22), Chap. III, p. 22.
  18. (i) MAR (1921-22), Chap. III, p. 27.  
(ii) MAR (1922-23), Chap. I, pp. 5-6.
  19. Kishanpuri, *op. cit.*, pp. 209-10.

working.<sup>20</sup> A general standard of physical fitness for recruits was decided and insisted on firmly. Vacancies were filled up by stalwart fellows. Retired army men capable of rendering a few years active service were also enrolled in the force.<sup>21</sup> Men and officers were trained in physical training, drill and musketry.<sup>22</sup>

Because of the modernisation of judiciary and the old type of Hindi knowing pleaders being replaced by law graduates. Kothawala at once foresaw the need of having a qualified prosecution staff to match them. He, therefore, obtained the sanction of the *Darbar* in 1923 for the creation of five posts of public prosecutors to be filled up with law graduates.<sup>23</sup> The force thus improved gave battle to organised gangs of outlaws and cleaned the state of all serious crime in later years.

### Commutation of Jagir Militia

Besides *Rekh* and *Hukamnama*, uniform rates about which were settled as a result of the mediation of the British political officers in the time of Takhat Singh,<sup>24</sup> the *jagirdars* provided for performance of *chakri* to the *Maharaja* one horseman, one camel *sowar* or one footman for every Rs. 1000, Rs. 750 or Rs. 500 of *Rekh* (gross proceeds of the *jagir*) respectively.<sup>25</sup> The feudal militia was in most cases inefficient and the stipulated quota was seldom sent. As a result of the raising of the Imperial Service Troops to its full strength, the military expenditure of the state increased by Rs. 3,00,000.<sup>26</sup> A scheme of commutation of *chakri* into annual money payment @ Rs. 204 a horseman, Rs. 180 a camel *sowar* and Rs. 84 a footman was launched in 1894 with a view to getting rid of this rabble and recouping the extra outlay.<sup>27</sup> It did not find favour with the *jagirdars*. A flat annual rate of Rs. 180 was fixed for a gross rental receipt of Rs. 1000 in 1901.<sup>28</sup> By 1907-08, 1413

20. Ibid., pp. 212-14

21. Ibid., pp. 216-17.

22. (i) MAR (1924-26), Chap. III, p. 16.

(ii) Kishanpuri, op. cit., pp. 218-19.

23. (i) MAR (1923-24) Chap. III, p. 18.

(ii) MAR (1924-26), Chap. III, p. 18.

(iii) Kishanpuri, op. cit., Chap. I, p. 15.

24. ut supra, Chap. I, pp. 22-23.

25. (i) RSAJ, Sanad Bahis 47, p. 257; 55, p. 199 and 59, p. 13.

(ii) Hardayal Singh, op. cit., p. 750.

(iii) Hardayal Singh, Tawarikh Jagirdaran.

26. Sukhdeo Prasad, Crime and Punishment in Marwar (1895), p. 8.

27. (i) Ibid., p. 11.

(ii) MAR (1907-08), Chap. III Sec. 7, pp. 12-13.

(iii) Revu, op. cit., Vol. II, p. 631.

28. Revu, op. cit., Vol. II, p. 631.

horsemen and 156 footmen were amicably commuted.<sup>29</sup> In 1912, the rate was again reduced to Rs. 144, and the scheme was pushed forward with vigour.<sup>30</sup> The *jagirdars* also realised the benefits of this scheme and readily came forward. In consequence, the state got rid of an inefficient force and derived Rs. 4,67,434 from this source of revenue in 1922-23.<sup>31</sup>

### Department of Excise and Salt

The excise arrangement in force since 1887 was revised in 1912 with a view to bringing it to an approximation to the Madras system.<sup>32</sup> The outstill system of giving out contracts for distillation and sale of liquor in different *parganas* or group of *parganas* was given up from October, 1912, and the distillation and vending of all kinds of country liquor was leased for three years to one contractor.<sup>33</sup> A central distillery was established at Jalia Bera near Jodhpur where all kinds of liquor for the whole of Marwar excluding Malani were distilled under the supervision of a state inspector, who had been trained at Dhulia distillery.<sup>34</sup> Warehouses for distribution were opened at selected centres. The retail vend was carried on by license holders of 286 shops against 82 distilleries and 168 shops in 1911-12.<sup>35</sup> The quality, strength and price of liquor were standardised.<sup>36</sup> Earlier foreign liquor was imported into Marwar without any restrictions. Licenses for its sale were for the first time issued in 1898.<sup>37</sup> A fee of six paise per bottle was levied on all imports into Marwar and also on liquor going from Jodhpur into districts.<sup>38</sup> Methylated spirits were brought under the excise operations in 1912.<sup>39</sup>

Marwar Excise, Opium and Drugs Law was enacted in 1922. It contained stricter restrictions on the import and sale of liquor,

29. MAR (1907-08), Chap. III Sec. 7, p. 13.

30. (i) MAR (1912-13), Chap. III Sec. 14, p. 11.

(ii) MAR (1912-13), Chap. III Sec. 18, p. 13.

(iii) Reu, op. cit., Vol. II, p. 631.

31. MAR (1922-23), Chap. III, p. 19.

(ii) Reu, op. cit., p. 631.

32. The Madras system is based on the central distillery system.

(i) MAR (1907-08), Chap. IV Sec. 25, p. 41.

(ii) MAR (1912-13), Chap. IV Sec. 39, p. 44.

(iii) Misra, op. cit., pp. 23-24.

33. MAR (1912-13), Chap. IV Sec. 39, p. 44.

34. (i) Ibid.

(ii) Malani was brought under excise operations in 1920-21. MAR (1918-19) to 1920-21), Chap. IV, p. 64.

35. MAR (1912-13), Chap. IV Sec. 39, p. 44.

36. Ibid., p. 45.

37. Misra, op. cit., p. 24.

38. Ibid., p. 25.

39. MAR (1912-13), Chap. Sec. 39, p. 45.

opium and hemp drugs.<sup>40</sup> This necessitated effective supervision. To achieve this with the least increase in expenditure the excise and salt departments were amalgamated into one and reorganized in 1923.<sup>41</sup> Salt *girdawars* were entrusted with excise work and designated Subinspectors of Excise and Salt. The executive staff consisted of twelve inspectors and ten subinspectors under a superintendent.<sup>42</sup> Border preventive arrangements were improved. The excise revenue, which was only Rs. 1,700 in 1884-85, increased to Rs. 8,04,325 with an expenditure of Rs. 57,717 only in 1922-23.<sup>43</sup>

### Resettlement of Khalsa Land

The settlement of *khalsa* land was initially introduced for ten years and ought to have been revised at the end of that period.<sup>44</sup> The attention of the *Raj* was drawn by the paramount power in 1913, but it came to nothing. On the eve of the accession of Umed Singh, *Musahib Ala Chhajju Ram* pointed out that the resettlement of *khalsa* land claimed immediate attention.<sup>45</sup> During the regency the work was taken up in 1921 by Drake Brockman, Revenue Member. Services of Himmat Singh of the U.P. Provincial Service were secured.<sup>46</sup>

As a preliminary measure, all the existing maps were corrected, renumbered and brought up to date and unsurveyed villages were surveyed.<sup>47</sup> The conventional soilwise classification was neither thorough nor accurate. A more scientific classification was adopted and land was classified into six divisions:<sup>48</sup>

- (i) *Chahi* (land irrigated by wells).
- (ii) *Sewaj* (land on which dry farming was practised)
- (iii) *Kachar* (land in the beds of tanks)
- (iv) *Nehri* (canal irrigated land)
- (v) *Barani* (Insecure land solely dependent on rains)
- (vi) *Rel* (land inundated by the overflow of river water).

40. Supplement to Marwar Gazette Vol. LVII No. 42 d. July 15, 1922, pp. 1-13.

41. MAR (1922-23), Chap IV, p. 45.

42. Ibid., p. 45.

43. Ibid., p. 47.

44. Drake Brockman, Settlement Report of *khalsa* villages, para 28, p. 23.

45. (i) Pr. 6 (RWRS to AGG No. 29-C.B d. April 29, 1920), in For. Sec. I, July 1920 No. 6-7.

(ii) Supplement to Marwar Gazette d. July 8, 1922.

46. RSAJ, MK File 4 Part I (RWRS to the Senior Member No. 3469 d. Aug. 21, 1919 and subsequent correspondence).

(i) Drake Brockman, op. cit., para 38, p. 30.

47. (i) Ibid., op. cit., para 31, p. 25.

(ii) Niranjan Swaroop, Settlement operations of the *khalsa* villages (1941-44), Chap. V, p. 24.

48. Drake Brockman, op. cit., para 33, d. 26

The *chahi* land was sub-divided into five classes on the basis of its situation, irrigating capacity of its wells, and the quality of their water and characteristics of its soil with other factors. The *barani* land was also classified on the basis of relative values into three divisions.<sup>49</sup> Cultivable lands, thus classified, were divided soilwise for assessment into *mustaqil* (permanent) and *ghair-mustaqil* (non-permanent categories).<sup>50</sup> All the first and second class *chahi* holdings, most of the third class *chahi* land, superior *kachar* lands, the most favoured *sewaj* lands in irrigated tracts and comparatively well situated *barani* lands in unirrigated tracts were declared *mustaqil*.<sup>51</sup> All the other lands, i.e., a few third and all the fourth and fifth class well holdings, inferior and precarious canal, *kachar* and *sewaj* lands, and ninety percent of *barani* lands were classed as *ghair-mustaqil*.<sup>52</sup> The final distribution of cultivable land was as follows.<sup>53</sup>

Soil	<i>Mustaqil</i> (in bighas)	Ghair <i>Mustaqil</i> (in bighas)
Chahi	2,62,463	1,54,933 —
Sewaj	16,600	26,141
Kachar	4,088	35,226
Nehri	22,319	62,042
Barani	1,05,289	9,84,649
Rel	—	12,048

A few *pargana* or villages of adjoining *parganas* possessing similar characteristics were formed into assessment circles for the determination of rates. Rent rates were evolved for each type of classified soil in view of the following factors :

- (i) Soil values
- (ii) Produce estimates
- (iii) Fluctuations in prices
- (iv) Other economic factors.

While rates were fixed in *bapi* for *mustaqil* land, in the case of *ghair-mustaqil* land, rates were fixed for *ghair-bapidars*. *Mustaqil* land was let in *bapi* at standard rates. If tenants did not accept it in *bapi* or long lease, they had to pay rates higher by twenty five

49. (i) Drake Brockman, op. cit., Appendix III, pp. 33-46 and 47.

(ii) Niranjan Swaroop, op. cit., Chap. 26-27.

50. (i) Drake Brockman, op. cit., para 32, p. 26 and para 35, p. 27.

(ii) Niranjan Swaroop, op. cit., Chap. V, p. 30.

51. Drake Brockman, op. cit., p. 27 p. 34.

52. Ibid.

53. (i) Drake Brockman, op. cit., para 35, p. 27 and Appendix I and II.

(ii) Niranjan Swaroop, op. cit., Chap. V, p. 30

percent. The *ghair - bapidar* paid at standard rate only for the actually cultivated *ghair - mustaqil* land. If he wanted to occupy that land in *bapi* for which he was induced, he could make an offer. If the offer was found adequate, *ghair - mustaqil* land was granted in *bapi*.<sup>54</sup> Due allowance was made for fallows. No variation from the standard rate was ordinarily made.<sup>55</sup> Privileges and liabilities of *bapidars* and long lease-holders of land were defined on the basis of recognised rights and traditional practices. A concession not exceeding twenty five percent on the rates was also allowed to tenants, who could justify it by custom or usage. Such a concession was not admitted in the case of *barani* lands given in *bapi*.<sup>56</sup>

This system was on the whole popular among the tenants. Only those tenants, who had earlier enjoyed a caste privilege in rent, were adversely affected. *Pattas* were given to all *bapidars* and long lease holders. The areas together with their rates and rents were recorded in the *patta*.<sup>57</sup> A comparative statement of the results of this settlement and those of the previous one is given on the reverse.

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54. Drake Brockman, op. cit , para 35, p. 27.

55. Ibid., para 25, p. 28.

56. Ibid.

57. Ibid.

	First Settlement		Second Settlement	
	Area (bighas)	Rent (Rs.)	Area (bighas)	Rent (Rs.)
1. In holdings	32,32,398	11,93,099	34,47,124	16,42,347
2. Cultivable	27,98,661	—	25,15,023	—
3. Non-cultivable	12,93,953	—	15,17,361	—
	73,25,012	—	74,79,508	—
4. Total <i>khalsa</i> area	1,96,483	3,04,629	2,60,273	4,76,403
5. <i>Chahi</i>	27,848	13,663	41,307	45,255
6. <i>Nehri</i>	10,166	10,193	6,939	16,563
7. <i>Kachar</i>	21,72,675	4,56,512	25,69,245	7,46,534
8. <i>Barani</i>	24,07,172	7,78,482	28,77,764	12,84,755
9. Total				
10. Percentage on total cultivable area (Nos 1 and 2)	39.9	64.4	48.2	78.2
	1,19,617	46,249	37,784	60,593
11. <i>Chahi</i>	14,778	3,652	9,661	20,418
12. <i>Nehri</i>	10,952	20,048	8,074	11,166
13. <i>Kachar</i>	6,79,906	1,44,044	5,13,841	2,05,411
14. <i>Barani</i>	8,25,226	4,14,617	5,69,360	3,51,592
15. Total				
16. Percentage on total cultivable area (Nos. 1 and 2)	13.7	35.6	9.5	21.8
	14,28,434	—	12,41,509	—
17. Total <i>Muafi</i>				

Note : A Marwar *bigha* was equal to an area of 162 hectares (17,424 sq. ft.), and for practical purposes 2½ bighas meant an acre. The accuracy of figures is subject to scrutiny.



It shows that the percentage of the *bapi* land increased from 39.9 to 48.2 and that of land held in *ghair-bapi* tenure fell from 13.7 to 2.5.<sup>58</sup> During this settlement most of the *kachar* lands were classed as *mustaqil*. This classification was later found to be erroneous. The *kachar* land was, therefore, reclassified into *ghair-mustaqil*.<sup>59</sup> In consequence of this settlement there was a rise of Rs. 4,50,000 in the rent roll. It was due to increase of area, enhancement of rents and other changes since the first settlement. The incidence per *bigha* rose from Re. 0.32 to Re. 0.45 for *bapidars* and from Re. 0.5 to Re. 0.62 for *ghair bapidars*.<sup>60</sup>

The reorganisation of the machinery of land revenue administration was also taken up in 1922-23. As yet the central *hawala* office was responsible for record keeping, estate management and the collection of all the land revenue, i.e., rent of land, miscellaneous demands and proceeds from natural products. The *hawaldar*, who was the backbone of village administration, could not cope with these numerous responsibilities. It resulted in inefficiency and loss of revenue. The scheme of 1923, therefore, separated the work of collection from that of record keeping. The responsibility of collecting land rent was entrusted to *hakims*. *Hawala ameens* were appointed to the *hakumats* for the purpose. The work of maintenance of village records, disposal of land to cultivators together with the fixation of rents, mutation work, realisation and disposal of miscellaneous revenue and management of attached estates remained with the *Hawala* Department. Steps were also taken to reorganise the department. Appointment of four assistant superintendents with headquarters in districts was proposed. Below them were placed sixteen *daroghas* to supervise the work of *hawaldars*, whose strength of 188 was increased by 50%. This scheme, which was approved in principle in January 1923, came in force from the next financial year.<sup>61</sup>

58. Ibid., para 35, p. 28.

Ibid., para 35, p. 20.

59. Niranjan Swaroop, op. cit., Chap. V, p. 28.

60. (i) See *Infra*, p. 62.

(ii) MAR (1894-95), Chap. II, p. 30.

(iii) RSAJ, MK File 43 Hawala Part I Note d. May 29, 1922 and C.R. 8 d. Aug. 25, 1922.

(iv) MAR (1922-23), Chap. II, p. 13.

61. (i) RSAJ, MK File 43, Note 260 by Drake Brockman d. Dec. 3, 1922, and C.R. 16 d. Jan. 1, 1923.

(ii) MAR (1923-24), Chap. II, p. 7.

(iii) MAR (1924-25), Chap. II, p. 9.

## Evolution of the Central Structure of Administration

While the administration was thus renovated, the minor *Maharaja* Sumer Singh returned in the beginning of 1914. He was associated with magisterial work and general administration.<sup>62</sup> Before he could acquire substantial experience, World War I broke out. Both Sir Pratap and Sumer Singh went to the front with the Jodhpur Lancers. Sumer Singh returned in June, 1915, and resumed his administrative training. He was married to the princess of Jamnagar on December 9, 1915. When he was about to attain maturity, the question of investing him with ruling powers was raised.<sup>63</sup> His training and experience were not adequate enough for independent charge of the state.<sup>64</sup> But prolongation of the minority was liable to endanger the relations of the Regent and the young *Maharaja*.<sup>65</sup> He was, therefore, invested with ruling powers on February 16, 1916 by the Governor-General Lord Hardinge.<sup>66</sup> No restriction was openly imposed on him, but he was quietly advised to seek and follow the advice of the Resident in all important matters.<sup>67</sup>

Three months later a very unhappy situation arose. With the investiture of the *Maharaja* the Regency Council automatically fell into the background. It was now left merely as an advisory body.<sup>68</sup> The state could not afford paying a large body of men who merely made recommendations. Sir Pratap, who had returned from the front to attend his marriage and investiture ceremony, also went back to the theatre of war.<sup>69</sup> While alternative arrangement to aid and advise the *Maharaja* in the administration was being thought of, Khan Bahadur Merwanji Pestonji, the *Diwan* of Jamnagar, was appointed by the *Maharaja* as his *Musahib Ala*,

62. Keepwiths to For. Sec. Int. July 1919 No. 75-113 (Report on the minority administration in Jodhpur, d. October 12, 1918).

63. (i) Encl. to Pr. 1 (RWRS to AGG d. Jan. 8) in For. Sec. I, April 1916 No. 1-17.

(ii) Encl. to Pr. 12 (RWRS to AGG No. 29 p. d. June 10) in For. Sec. I July 1916 No. 12-13

64. Pr. 1 (AGG to Secy. For. No. 18 p. d. Feb. 19), loc. cit.

65. Encl. 1 to Pr. 1 (RWRS to AGG No. 83 p. Jan. 1), loc. cit.

66. (i) Pr. 4 (Secy. For. to AGG No. 517-D d. Feb. 9) in For. Sec. I, April 1916 No. 1-17.

(ii) MAR (1915-16), Chap. 1, p. 2.

(iii) Reu, op. cit., Vol. II, p. 526.

67. (i) Pr. 12 (Hardinge to Sumer Singh with No. 735-D d. Feb. 22, 1916 from Secy, For. to the AGG), loc. cit.

(ii) RSAJ, Document No. 2 A Grievances (a) Political VI Annexure D (Chelmsford to Sumer Singh d. May 8, 1917).

68. Encl. to Pr. 12 (RWRS to First Asst. to the AGG No. 29 p. d. June 10) For. Sec. I, July 1916 No. 12-13.

69. Van Wart, op. cit., p. 207.

without consulting the Resident.<sup>70</sup> It led to the resignation of Major Patterson, Finance Member. Pandit Shyam Behari Misra, Revenue Member, was likely to follow suit. At first, both the Resident and the A.G.G. wanted to hold the appointment in abeyance, but it would have meant a serious blow to the *Izzat* of the *Maharaja* at the very outset of his reign. He was prepared to institute reforms for the better administration of the *Raj*. The Khan Bahadur was a man of experience, capacity and tact. The lapse in not consulting the Resident was unintentional on the part of the *Maharaja*. He had never anticipated the resignation of his best officers. He also agreed that the Finance Member and the Revenue Member would have the right of direct access to him. In case of difference of opinion between them and the *Musahib Ala* they would be personally consulted by him.<sup>71</sup>

On the recommendation of the Resident and the A.G.G. the appointment of the *Musahib Ala* was upheld by the Government of India.<sup>72</sup> Both the finance and the revenue members left Jodhpur on the expiry of their term within a year. The *Musahib Ala* consequently became the general head of the the administration under the *Maharaja*, but Pestonji Merwanji held this office only till March, 1918 and was succeeded by Chhajju Ram, who was formerly *Diwan* of Datia State.<sup>73</sup> He began ruthlessly purifying and reforming the administration. But he could do little beyond the removal of some corrupt and incompetent officers, because of the sudden death of Sumer Singh on October 3, 1918.

Sumer Singh was succeeded on October 4, 1918 by his brother Umaid Singh, who was only sixteen years old. The paramount power was thus again faced with the problem of minority administration in Marwar. No sooner did this news reach Sir Pratap in Palestine, he again offered his services to serve the land of his birth and ancestors as regent.<sup>74</sup> On being consulted, Umaid Singh opposed it and added that his views were based on the instructions of his brother. Sir Pratap was a man of commanding personality and remarkable influence. His active service had enhanced his prestige. Public opinion was on his side. Even his opponents admitted, though grudgingly, that entrusting the regency to

70. Pr. 12 (AGG to Secy. For. No. 80 P. d. June 15, 1916) in For. Sec. 1, July 1916 No. 12-13.

71. Encls. 1 to 3 to Pr. 12 (Sumer Singh to AGG d. June 5; AGG to Sumer Singh d. June 6 and RWRS to AGG No. 29-P. d. June 10, 1916), loc. cit.

72. Pr. 13 (Secy. For. to AGG No. 101-1A d. June 27), loc. cit.

73. (i) Keepwits to For. Sec. 1, July 1919 No. 75-113, loc. cit.

(ii) Reu, op cit., Vol. II, pp. 528-30)

74. Van Wart, op. cit., p. 215.

Sir Pratap was inevitable. His exclusion would result in more harm than good. When all these arguments were urged upon the *Maharaja*, he yielded.<sup>75</sup>

The next question that came to the forefront was whether the administration should be carried on by a regency council as on the last occasion, or by the *Musahib Ala*. The Government of India, as a matter of policy, wanted a council. Sir Pratap had also proposed it. The *Musahib Ala* Chhajju Ram had created enemies by his hasty policy of purification. The formation of the council was thus a foregone conclusion. The A.G.G. in consultation with the Regent rightly decided to have a homogeneous body consisting of (i) the representatives of the uterine relations of the *Maharaja* and the nobility; (ii) a British officer in charge of finances and (iii) a competent revenue member.

Two names were at once agreed upon : (i) *Maharaj* Zalim Singh (ii) *Thakur* Mangal Singh of Pokran. For the office of revenue member two names were put forward (i) *Musahib Ala* Chhajju Ram (ii) Pandit Sukhdeo Prasad. The former consented to act as an ordinary member in charge of revenue administration. He was, without doubt, a man of parts, and had earned reputation in Central India, but he was unsuitable at Jodhpur because of his arrogant and impetuous temperament. Sir Pratap had, therefore, to choose Sukhdeo Prasad. He being a pensioner of the *Raj*, his services were in effect being obtained almost free. The finance member was yet to be nominated. Work was distributed among them on lines similar to those adopted in 1911. An advisory committee of the *thakurs* of Asop Rian and Ras was also formed. But behind all this, the real power was vested in the Resident. The Regent agreed to be guided by his advice in all important matters. No change was made in the personnel of the council and the distribution of portfolios among them. No excess expenditure was made without specific reference to the Resident, under whose guidance the annual budget was framed. Even in the exercise of casting vote in the council the Regent consulted him. He presided over the council during the absence of the Regent for a long period. The scheme was brought into force after its acceptance by the Government of India.<sup>76</sup>

75. Keepwiths (Holland's Notes on conversation with Maharaja Umaid Singh d. Oct. 11, 1918) in For. Sec. July, 1919 No. 75-113.

76. (i) AGG to Secy For No. 83 P. d. Feb. 3, and Secy. For to AGG No. 2095-I-A d. April 14, 1919 in For. Sec. I July, 1919 No. 75-123.

(ii) Marwar Gazette (Extraordinary) Vol. LIV 12 d. Dec 4, 1918, p. 78.

(iii) MAR (1918-19 to 1920-21), Chap. I Sec (c), pp. 3-4 and Sec. (n), p. 12.

The council underwent a change in personnel in 1920-21. There was constant friction between Zalim Singh, Vice-president and Sukhdeo Prasad, Revenue Member. It was prejudicial to the harmonious working of the council.<sup>77</sup> In order to strengthen the council and take up measures for overhauling the administration of the state revenue, services of D. L. Drake Brockman were requisitioned.<sup>78</sup> Meanwhile, the Vice-president resigned and his place was filled up on September 30, 1920 by another *Rajvi* Fateh Singh who was designated Home Member.<sup>79</sup> R.A. Lyall took charge as the Finance Member in place of Hamilton, who went on furlough.<sup>80</sup> The council was thus reconstituted and portfolios reshuffled. Pandit Sukhdeo Prasad now became Political and Judicial Member.<sup>81</sup>

Another task, to which the paramount power had given attention, was the education of the young *Maharaja*, who looked a steady and thoughtful lad. It was for want of adequate supervision and hasty grant of powers that Sardar Singh and Sumer Singh had become addicted to intemperate habits, which had proved fatal to both of them. The *Musahib Ala Chhajju* Ram had suggested that the young *Maharaja* should be educated at a place away from local influence. He was, therefore, sent to the Mayo College, Ajmer, with his guardian Col. Waddington.<sup>82</sup> He studied there for about two years and a quarter. He was found capable and trustworthy and his general behaviour was all that could be desired. On his return he began watching and acquainting himself with the work of administration. From January, 1922 he attended the meetings of the council and thus qualified himself for investiture with ruling powers.<sup>83</sup> Before a programme was formulated, the *Maharaj* Regent Sir Pratap Singh passed away on September 4, 1922 leaving behind a hallowed memory and noble example.<sup>84</sup> The soldier statesman was first in war, first in peace and first in the hearts of the people of Marwar.

77. For. Sec. Int. Nov. 19 0 No. 12-14.

78. Drake Brockman took charge on Nov. 13, 1920.

(i) For. Sec. Int. July, 1920 No. 6-7.

(ii) MAR (1918-19 to 20-21), Chap. 1, Sec. (n), pp. 12-13.

79. (i) For. Sec. I Pro. Nov 1920 No. 12-14.

(ii) MAR (1918-19 to 20-21), Chap. 1, Sec. (n), pp. 12-13.

80. (i) Ibid., p. 13.

(ii) *Reu*, op cit, Vol. II, p. 537.

81. (i) For Sec. I Nov. 1920 No 12-14

(ii) MAR (1918-19 to 1920-21), Chap. 1, Sec. (n), p. 12.

(iii) *Reu*, op. cit., Vol. II, p. 537.

82. *Keepwicks* to For. Sec. I, July 1919 No. 75-113

83. *Keepwicks* (Maharaj Regent to Viceroy d. July 18, 1922) in For. Pol. No. 1'0 - Part II.

(ii) *Reu*, op cit., Vol. II, pp. 539 and 541.

84. Marwar Gazette Vol. LVII No. 51 d. Sept. 16, 1922, pp. 469-70.

The termination of the minority was in sight, but the few months that lay ahead could be a difficult period. The Maharaja could not be placed at the helm. Nobody else was found suitable to step in the shoes of the Maharaja Regent. The presidentship of the Regency Council, therefore, devolved upon the Resident and the young Maharaja was entrusted with the charge of the departments, so long controlled by the regent. The Resident, Reynolds, began inducting the Maharaja into the work, himself receding into the background.<sup>85</sup> That equipped him for the task which lay ahead.

On January 27, 1923 Lord Reading, Governor-General and Viceroy of India, invested Umaid Singh with full ruling powers in an open *Darbar*.<sup>86</sup> The Regency Council was metamorphosed into the State Council with almost the same constitution and personnel to aid and advise the ruler in the administration of the state.<sup>87</sup> This council, which was the gift of the regency, took root and grew as a homogeneous and collective body owing largely to the circumstances at that time. The regent was a nominee of the paramount power. He had to share his authority with other members, some of whom had been selected by the supreme government. An effort to override their opinion was likely to create deadlock and stiffen the attitude of the government. The Resident exercised supervision and control over the entire administration. The Regency Council had, therefore, to work in a team spirit, lest the political officers of the paramount power should interfere to the mutual disadvantage of the Regent and the other members. The Regent could not command the authority and power of a ruler, and age had handicapped Sir Pratap. He always tried to win the sympathy and support of the members to have a smooth sailing. Maharaja Umaid Singh also followed the same pattern and later developed it into a council of ministers. Thus, the central structure, on which the entire administrative machinery depended, was evolved during the periods of minority administration.

### Organisation of Secretariat

At the beginning of the nineteenth century the Maharaja was assisted in the administration of his state by the *Diwan* and the *Bakshi*. The departments of revenue and finance together with the

- 
85. (i) For. File 110 - Part II, AGG to Secy. For. No. 1015 P. d. Sept. 19, 1922.  
 (ii) MAR (1921-22), p. 12.
86. (i) MAR (1923-24), Chap. 1, p. 3.  
 (ii) Marwar Gazette (Extraordinary), Vol. LVIII No. 17 d. Jan. 27, 1923.
87. (i) RSAJ, MK File 515 Part I (1923) - Formation of State Council.  
 (ii) Marwar Gazette (Extraordinary), Vol. LVIII No. 17 d. Jan. 27, 1923.  
 (iii) MAR (1923-24), Chap. 1, p. 12.

district *hakumats* were controlled by the *Diwan*. The *Bakshi* was the paymaster of the troops and his office was located at Fatehpur in the fort. The correspondence with foreign courts in Persian was looked after by the *Mirmunshi* and the home records were maintained by the *Daroga Dastri*. Above all was the *Hazuri Daftar*. It was the personal office of the Maharaja for record and scrutiny.<sup>88</sup> In course of time the *Hazuri Daftar* lost its efficiency and grip over the administration. Its place was taken over by the office of the *Musahib Ala*, which had been created to serve as a link between the Maharaja and the *Diwangiri* and the *Bakshigiri*. The office of the *Musahib Ala* acquired the name *Mehkma Khas*. To begin with it was a council. With the gradual decline in the importance of the *Hazuri Daftar* it gained strength and a secretariat grew up for the performance of ministerial functions. When a properly constituted council of members developed, the secretariat part acquired the designation *Mehkma Khas*, and it had two wings : (i) home and (ii) foreign. A new department of *Insidad Vardata* was created in 1883 to prevent crime. The army was also reorganised. In order to streamline the working of the *Mehkma Khas* which directed and controlled the administration, it was divided into five sections : (i) Military, (ii) Revenue, (iii) Judicial, (iv) Foreign and (v) General.<sup>89</sup> For a long time there was complete lack of co-ordination between them. Most of the officials worked independently and their work was seldom supervised. Files were not maintained, and much time was wasted in searching papers.<sup>90</sup> With the enlargement of the state council and the introduction of portfolio system the reform of the *Mehkma Khas* became necessary. For overhauling the whole system a committee was formed under the chairmanship of D.L. Drake Brockman, the Revenue Member.<sup>91</sup> On its recommendation the *Mehkma Khas* was divided into seven sections, each under a sectional head subordinate to the Registrar. These sections were: (i) Political, (ii) Military, (iii) Finance, (iv) Revenue, (v) Judicial, (vi) Public Works and (vii) General. Every letter or document which was received in the *Mehkma Khas* was earmarked for one of these sections. It would then form part of an already existing file; and where there was no file on the subject, it would be made the basis of a new file. Records were classified and files numbered

88. (i) RSAJ, *Mundvad Khyat* (Ajit Singh), pp. 17-18.

(ii) RSAJ *Basta* 40, pp. 668-69.

89. (i) *Ut supra*, Chap. III, p. 33-36.

(ii) RSAJ, File 5 3-C-Note d. July 15, 1917 by Sukhdeo Prasad.

(iii) Hardayal Singh, *op. cit.*, pp. 261-62.

90. RSAJ, MK File 29 Part I (1920) Note d. Aug. 10, 1921 by Drake Brockman.

91. RSAJ, State Council Proceedings - Resolution No. 15 d. Aug. 19, 1921.

subjectwise. The staff was reshuffled to carry out the new system. Pay scales were revised. Office hours were fixed. Attendance registers and character rolls were introduced. In brief, discipline was tightened,<sup>92</sup>

### Summing up

Perchance had some Rip van Winkle of the later seventies of the nineteenth century woke up on the auspicious occasion of the investiture of Maharaja Umaid Singh on January 27, 1923, he would have noticed a remarkable change in the administration of Raj Marwar - peace and prosperity in place of disorder and dacoity; progressively increasing revenue and reserves in place of recurring deficits and debts; efficient justice and police protection in place of corrupt officialdom and defiant nobility. Besides, he would have also been amazed at the introduction and development of railways and other public utility works and institutions, which are dealt with in subsequent chapters of this study. At a later date Maharaja Umaid Singh was able to observe. "The privileged classes can no longer with impunity defy the law, and expect to escape the consequences of actions illegal in the eyes of the law, where all men are or should be equal."<sup>93</sup>

But a good deal remained, even after all this had been accomplished. The Marwar Chief Court was not a court of record. No suit could be filed against the state. Courts of higher judiciary were located only at Jodhpur.<sup>94</sup> Inefficient and corrupt *hakims* had not yet been weeded out. No steps had been taken to separate the judiciary from the executive. As a result, when the *hakims* went on tour to perform executive jobs, delay and inconvenience were caused in the disposal of cases. All this stood in the way of speedy and inexpensive justice. The resettlement of *khalsa* villages was in progress, but beyond the definition and regulation of the judicial powers of the *jagirdars* little had been done to ameliorate the condition of the people living in *jagir* areas, which formed four-fifths of Marwar. They were, till then, subject to traditional ill-regulated *batai* system and obnoxious cesses, most of which had been abolished in the *khalsa* villages as far back as 1895. Steps had not been

92. (i) RSAJ, MK File 29, Part I (1920).

(ii) RSAJ, MK File C/31 Vol. I - Note d. April 24, 1922 by the Registrar,

93. (i) RSAJ, *Haqiqat Bahi* 56, p. 119.

(ii) Kishanpuri, op. cit., p. 203 Judgement d. May 1, 1937 in the Mithri coining and note-forging case.

61. *Diwani Adalat, Firijlari Adalat* and *Court Sardaran* and on their abolition the District and Sessions Courts.



taken to put their land settlement on a firm and equitable basis. Some of the *jagirdars* had police powers as well. In short, *jagirs* were citadels of medieval feudal forces of reactionarism. Besides the feudal elements, a new force of bureaucracy headed by officers lent by the paramount power appeared on the scene. But no adequate means had been provided for the ventilation of grievances of the people and for the expression of their opinions on matters of public interest.<sup>95</sup>

But while saying all this, one should remember that a new Rome could not be built on old ruins in a day and also that the administration of Marwar in 1923 could challenge comparison with that of any other state in Rajasthan.<sup>96</sup> It gave benefits both of change and continuity. A firm foundation had been laid during these years for the changes that were to follow.

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95. (i) MAR (1918-19 to 20-21), Chap. I Sec. (1), p. 11 - Lord Chelmsford, is speech at Jodhpur on Nov. 20, 1920).

(ii) RSAJ, MK Administration File 8 Part I (Consultative Council). Political and Judicial Member's Council Note d. Dec. 20, 1920 and Revenue Member's observations in a separate note.

96. MAR, Chap I, p. 5 - Address by Lord Reading, Viceroy and Governor-General of India at the investiture of Maharaja Umaid Singh.

## Chapter V

# MIGHT OF THE FORCES

### Early History

The Marwar army had a reputation going back to the early period of its history—a reputation signified during the *Mughal* period by the saying that their chief could command the services of fifty thousand sabres.<sup>1</sup> This force was largely composed of light cavalry and formed an obedient and homogeneous army. The *Maharajas*, who had the support of the *Mughal* court, provided effective unity of command.<sup>2</sup> The ideal of *swami dharma* (loyalty to the Lord) was their living motto.<sup>3</sup> Every soldier was the son of the soil and most of them were proud of being the descendants of the same ancestor as their chief.<sup>4</sup>

In consequence of the War of Rathore Independence (1678-1710), the nobles became refractory. Succession feuds, Maratha inroads and weakness of the rulers spurred their ambition, and they turned their arms against one another. Thus the *Rathore* army was a force divided against itself; and to overawe the turbulent vassalage Vijai Singh had to recruit *Rohilas*, *Afghans*, *Nagas* and *Purbias*, entirely dependent upon him.<sup>5</sup> With the increase in the *Maratha* menace, *Pindari* incursions and civil strife, this small body of mercenaries soon grew into a large military organisation. At the beginning of the nineteenth century the *Raj* forces were thus composed of a standing army of mercenaries and the *jagir jamiat*. These forces consisting of cavalry, infantry and artillery numbered some 12,000 men, of whom 4,000 were feudal *sowars* and

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1. It is also put as Lakh Talwaran Rathoran.

(i) Tod, op. cit., Vol. II, p. 125.

(ii) Hardayal Singh, op. cit., para 406, pp. 755-56.

(iii) MAR (1907-08), Chap III Sec. 7, p. 9.

2. ut. supra, p. 5.

3. (i) RSAJ, Khas Rukka Parwana Bahi 2, pp 1 and 110.

(ii) RSAJ, Byav-ri-Bahi 1, pp 213-18.

(iii) RSAJ, Basta 40 File 13 Kherva - Jodhpur - ki - Khyat.

(iv) RSAJ, Marwar-ki-Khyat, Vol III, p. 383.

(v) Reu, op. cit., Vol. II, p. 432.

4. (i) *Aik-Bap-ra-Beta*, Tod, op. cit., Vol II, p 125.

(ii) Hardayal Singh, Tawarikh Jagirdaran, pp. 13-17.

(iii) Hardayal Singh, op. cit., para 406, p. 755.

5. (i) Tod, op. cit., Vol II, p. 98.

(ii) RSAJ, Marwar-ki-Khyat, Vol. III, p 53.

(iii) Hardayal Singh, op. cit., para 405, p. 756.

(iv) Asopa, op. cit., p. 244.

(v) Gehlot, op. cit., p. 174.

mercenaries. The latter, being equipped with muskets and matchlocks, could overawe the *Rajput* cavaliers. But as they had no common interest and no common ideal, they were more unscrupulous and less faithful than the indigenous force. Their presence destroyed the spirit of mutual respect and co-operation which had earlier subsisted between the nobles and their sovereign.<sup>6</sup> Besides, they added to the financial difficulties of the *Raj*. Timely payments being impossible, the troops were not mustered for months together. So very often, they mortgaged their weapons and absented themselves for long durations.<sup>7</sup> Thus, the Marwar army degenerated into a heterogeneous, indisciplined and poorly equipped force.

After the conclusion of the treaty of 1818, whereby the state was freed from all fear of external attack, the necessity of maintaining a large standing army for the defence of the *Raj* disappeared. But vested interests stood in the way of retrenchment. In 1836, the obligation to furnish a contingent of 1500 Horse to the paramount power was commuted to an annual payment of Rs. 1,15,000. To meet this additional annual demand a large number of men was discharged and the force was reconstituted under the advice of the first Political Agent Ludlow.<sup>8</sup>

At the beginning of the reign of Jaswant Singh II the Marwar military force consisted of eight to nine thousand cavaliers and footmen and a sum of Rs. 6,00,000 or so was spent every year on its maintenance. This motley rabble employed on police and escort duties was poorly equipped, indisciplined and undependable. The *Maharaja* entrusted its charge to his brother Kishore Singh. He tried to introduce designations, uniform, drill and discipline on the British model, but could make little headway.<sup>9</sup>

### Formation of Imperial Service Troops

Where Kishore Singh failed, his younger brother Pratap succeeded. Ever since his return from Kabul mission it had been his

6 (i) Tod, op cit., Vol II, p. 134.

(ii) Hardayal Singh, op cit., paras 406 and 407, pp. 755-56.

(iii) MAR (1907-08), Chap. III Sec. 7, p. 9.

7. The strength of the force fluctuated with the revenue of the *Raj*

(i) Tod, op cit., Vol II, p. 134.

(ii) For Pol. March 15, 1841 No 35-36 (Ludlow to Sutherland d. Nov. 26, 1840)

(iii) Hardayal Singh, op cit., para 408, p 757.

8 For Pol March 15, 1841 No. 35-36

9 (i) ARS (1881-82), Marwar Agency Report, para 15.

(ii) Hardayal Singh, op. cit., para 409, p 757 and pp. 761-62

(iii) Pr II (Military Resources of Marwar) in For A Military 1 Dec. 1883 No 8-13

(iv) MAR (1884-85), para 11, p. 7.

desire to create a regular state cavalry. On an experimental basis, he began to form a body of horsemen with his retinue of roughly fifty *Rajputs*. He himself supervised their parade. Major Prinsep of the 11th Bengal Lancers and Capt. Beatson were impressed with the smartness of this promising little force.<sup>10</sup>

At this juncture Lord Dufferin inaugurated at Patiala on November 17, 1888, the scheme of Imperial Service Troops for the defence of the empire with three major objects:<sup>11</sup>

- (i) The chiefs would be proud to feel trusted and made partners in the defence of the empire.
- (ii) The troops would be manned by people from the states and the nobility would get assignments commensurate with their status and dignity.
- (iii) The scheme would provide an access to the government of India to open grounds for recruitment till then closed.

Jaswant Singh II led by a sense of loyalty came forward to raise two efficient regiments one of cavalry and one of infantry, an offer equivalent to that of the Patiala *Darbar*.<sup>12</sup> Sir Pratap's little band would form the nucleus for a cavalry corps, but Jodhpur was no field for infantry. A *Rathore* considered trudging on foot as something derogatory; he loved to be a horseman. The infantry part of the offer was, therefore, modified to a second body of cavalry in 1891.<sup>13</sup>

Enlistment soon began for the regiments, which were named *Sardar Risala* after the heir-apparent's name, but organisation and planning did not precede enlistment. In consequence, men were not classified. Old and young worked together though the former had lost their agility and could not keep pace with the latter. Their uniforms did not give a smart appearance. They lived in old *barracks* unsuitable even for their bare needs. There were neither commissioned nor non-commissioned officers responsible for their

10. Van Wart, op. cit., p. 90

11. For. Despatch to the Secy. of State for India No. 41 d. March 13, 1889.

12. (i) RSAJ, Haqiqat Bahi 35, p. 112

(ii) Keepwith (Mellis to Durand No. 8 d. Nov. 24, 1888) in For. Sec 1 May 1889 No. 49-64

(iii) MAR (1907-08), Chap. III Sec. 7, p. 9.

13. (i) Pr. 82 (Secy. For. to AGG No. 1904-I d. May 6, 1891) in For. Int. A May 1891 No. 76-82 and keepwith to it.

(ii) MAR (1907-08), Chap. III Sec. 7, p. 10.

(iii) Van Wart, op. cit., p. 91.

14. MAR (1889-90), Chap. XVII, para 301, p. 129 and para 323, p. 133.

15. (i) Pr. 16 (Musahib Ala to RWRS No. 780 d. Sept. 26, 1891) in For. Sec. 1 May 1892 No. 13-18.

(ii) MAR (1889-90), Chap. III, para 17, p. 4.

(iii) Van Wart, op. cit., p. 91.

discipline. The same happened with horses. Walers and Arab ponies had been mixed up, treated alike and dressed and harnessed in different patterns. In fine, organisation and method was wanting.<sup>14</sup> In response to the *Maharaja's* request the services of Major Beatson were lent to the Marwar *Darbar* to assist it in the training and equipment of its troops.<sup>15</sup> Beatson soon put them on proper footing. A cadre was evolved for each regiment consisting of a commandant, four squadron commanders, eight *risaldars*, eight *jamadars*, one *woordi* major, eight *kote dafedars*, forty eight *dafedars*, eight trumpeteers, eight farriers and five hundred and six *sowars*. Pay scales were fixed for each category.<sup>16</sup>

No control could be exercised on heterogeneous mercenaries. They deserted whenever it suited them and invariably overstayed when on leave. So Sir Pratap decided to man the *Risala* with *Rajput* sons of the soil and regiments consisting of clan squadrons of two troops each were constituted. They included:<sup>17</sup>

- (i) *Jodha Rajputs*      (ii) *Mertia Rajputs*
- (iii) *Gogade Rajputs*   (iv) *Khichi Rajputs* and
- (v) *Bhati Rajputs*.

It was in keeping with the feudal traditions of kinship and brotherhood and the British policy of restricting recruitment to martial races.

An all round improvement was effected. The old saddles were discarded and new ones of fine quality were received from England and Kanpur. Arms of proper length and uniform make were bought and distributed.<sup>18</sup> The state coloured uniform was changed to white serge blouses and white breeches with black *patties*, which gave a very smart appearance to the *sowars*.<sup>19</sup> Comfortable barracks with verandahs in front were built to house them.<sup>20</sup>

Two trained non-commissioned drill instructors and one trumpeteer were obtained from the Imperial Government and a proper system of drill was introduced.<sup>21</sup> As it was impossible to obtain the services of trained men for every branch, officers and

16. MAR (1889-90), Jodhpur Cavalry Report of Beatson, pp. 130-31.

17. Ibid., para 325, p. 134.

(ii) Kayamkhanis (Muslims of Rajput origin) were also subsequently recruited. MAR (1891-92), Chap XVIII, p. 77.

18. MAR (1889-90), Chap. XVII, para 313, p. 131.

19. (i) MAR (1889-90), Chap. XVIII, p. 138 (Appendix to Beatson Report) and para 329, p. 139

(ii) MAR (1890-91), Chap. XVII, pp. 107-08.

20. (i) MAR 1889-90), Chap. XVII, para 331, p. 140.

(ii) MAR (1890-91), Chap. XVII, p. 103.

21. (i) For. Int B Oct. 1889 No. 230-33.

(ii) MAR (1889-90), Chap. XVII, p. 135.

men were sent to attend veterinary course at Poona, Musketry classes at Meerut, military sketching and reconnaissance classes at Roorkee and a course of physical training at Ambala.<sup>22</sup> They, in turn, trained others in their regiments.<sup>23</sup> Beatson remained at Jodhpur for five years contributing admirably to the efficiency of the *Sardar Risala*. As a result, reports of the inspecting officers, Rajputana and North Western Provinces, were uniformly encouraging and the *Risala* soon became a magnificent light cavalry.<sup>24</sup>

In 1895-96, two squadrons were deputed to Sindh border to prevent *Hur* outlaws from entering Marwar.<sup>25</sup> In 1897-98, the first regiment formed part of the Reserve Brigade of the Tirah Field Force, and two detachments were employed on convoy duty.<sup>26</sup> In 1899-1900, in addition to the fixed picked horses presented by the *Maharaja* one hundred and ninety four horses were despatched to the Transvaal under the care of non-commissioned officers who returned in June, 1902.<sup>27</sup>

One of the regiments of the *Sardar Risala* formed part of the Indian troops, which participated in the China campaign (1900-02). It took part in the Nikku, Shimanzai and Funning expedition in China.<sup>28</sup> Ever willing and ready for any thing and absolutely uncomplaining, the officers and men roughed it out equally. All showed hardiness and stood well.<sup>29</sup> On January 12, 1901 *Dafedar* Dool Singh kept engaged one hundred Manchurian bandits with only nine men till reinforcement arrived. He was awarded the Order of Merit for his coolness and gallantry.<sup>30</sup>

22. (i) MAR (1890-91), Chap. XVII, p. 109.

(ii) MAR (1892-93), Chap. XVII Sec. II, p. 76.

(iii) MAR (1894-95), Chap. XVII, pp. 104-05.

(iv) MAR (1907-08), Chap. XVII, p. 93.

23. MAR (1893-94), Chap. XVII, p. 93.

24. (i) MAR (1892-93), Chap. XVI Sec. II, p. 75.

(ii) MAR (1896-97), Chap. I, p. 96.

(iii) MAR (1897-98), Chap. II Sec. II, p. 105.

25. (i) MAR (1895-96), Chap. XVII Sec. II, p. 117.

(ii) ARS (1895-96), WRSR Report, para 20, p. 33.

(iii) Erskine, op. cit., Vol. III A, Chap. XVII, p. 158.

26. (i) MAR (1897-98), Chap. XVII, pp. 104-05.

(ii) MAR (1898-99), Chap. XXI Sec. II, p. 77.

(iii) ARS, WRSR Report, para 21, p. 32.

27. (i) MAR (1899-1900), Chap. XXI Sec. II, p. 23.

(ii) MAR (1902-03), Chap. XX Sec. II, p. 30.

(iii) Erskine, op. cit., Vol. III A, Chap. XVII, p. 159.

28. Enclosure I to For. Int. B Sept. 1901 No. 218 (Turner's Report d. July 23, 1901).

29. (i) Ibid.

(ii) Government of India, A History of the Imperial Service Troops of Native States (Calcutta, 1903), p. 61.

30. Major Turner in his report observed that Dool Singh was the first soldier from the Imperial Service Troops to receive the third reward. Turner's Report d. July 23, 1901, loc. cit.

The regiment was in recognition of its services allowed by the Imperial Government to bear upon the colours the distinction "China 1900".<sup>31</sup> As a mark of additional appreciation four obsolete Chinese guns were presented to the regiment,<sup>32</sup> and its commanding officer Jas Singh was admitted to the second class order of British India and promoted to the first class order on January 1, 1903 at the Coronation *Darbar*.<sup>33</sup> While the *Sardar Risala* was thus rendering field service to the paramount power, Sardar Singh entered into an agreement with it for the effective control and discipline of troops, when serving beyond the frontiers of the state.<sup>34</sup>

Pestilence, famine and financial straits rendered it extremely difficult for the Marwar *Darbar* to maintain the two regiments to their full strength. Luckily for the reconstituted regiments of Madras Cavalry a squadron of the *Rajputs* of Rajasthan was being recruited. One *Rajput* squadron of the *Sardar Risala* was transferred to the Third Madras Lancers in October, 1902. This measure gave the latter a fine start, opened honourable and lucrative employment to a loyal and brave class of men, and saved Jodhpur from an embarrassing situation.<sup>35</sup> The strength of the two regiments was reduced for a time to 750, and the Marwar *Darbar* agreed to raise it to full strength as soon as its finances were set in order.<sup>36</sup>

The *Risala* was at times used to suppress dacoits who could not otherwise be brought to book. On November 18, 1903, a party of the first regiment consisting of a commissioned officer, a non-commissioned officer and thirteen men encountered dacoits in Jamla village of *Sankda pargana*. Six dacoits and four camels were killed, four more were wounded and captured. The gallant services were rewarded by the *Maharaja*.<sup>37</sup>

31. (i) MAR (1902-03), Chap I, Curzon's speech at the state banquet on Nov. 22, 1902, p. 3.  
(ii) RSAJ, *Haqiqat Bahi* 38, p. 289.
32. (i) Pr. 296 (Inspector General, I. S. Ts. to Secy. For. No. 608) in For. Int. B June 1901 No. 296-97.  
(ii) MAR (1903-04), Chap XX Sec. 1, para 131, p. 25.  
(iii) RSAJ, *Haqiqat Bahi* 38, p. 156.
33. MAR (1902-03), Chap. XX Sec. II, p. 31.
34. Aitchison, op. cit., Vol. III (1928), pp. 180-81.
35. (i) For. Int. A Oct. 1902 No. 260-65 and keepwiths to it.  
(ii) For. Int. B May 1903 No. 796 (Transfer of Rathores from the Jodhpur Lancers to the reconstituted 27th Light Cavalry).  
(iii) MAR (1902-03), Chap. XX Sec. 1, p. 31.
36. (i) For. Sec. 1 Jan. 1905 No. 15-18  
(ii) MAR (1904-05), Chap III, para 7, p. 4  
(iii) ARS (1904 05), WRSR Report (Marwar), para 21, p. 20.  
(iv) Pr. 97 (AGG to Secy. For. No. 1765 C d. Dec. 9, 1905) in For. Int. A No. 97-98.
37. (i) MAR (1903-04), Chap. XX Sec. II, para 135, p. 26.  
(ii) ARS (1903-04), WRSR Report, para 9, p. 11.  
(iii) MAR (1904 05), Chap. III, para 7, p. 4

The troops, though reduced in size, were maintained in a splendid state of efficiency. Their turn out, the excellence of their mounts and the precision and steadiness of their men in their movements uniformly received the approbation of the Inspector General of Imperial Service Troops, the Commander-in-Chief and the Governor-General.<sup>38</sup> In 1908, the paramount power desired that the *Risala* should be restored to its full strength. Besides, a scheme to award good conduct pay and pension was being enforced in the Imperial Service Troops. The execution of both the undertakings would have been a great strain on the resources of the *Raj*. The A.G.G. assured the *Maharaja* that the paramount power would not press for raising the second regiment to its full strength if the benefits were sanctioned. The system of good conduct pay was then readily adopted in 1909 and that of pension in 1913.<sup>39</sup>

Meanwhile, the strength of the *Risala* was also raised gradually from 747 in 1907-08 to 956 in 1913-14 as detailed under :

	First Regiment	Second Regiment	Total
1. Commissioned officers	23	11	34
2. Non-commissioned officers	103	53	156
3. Fighting men	479	287	766
	605	351	956

and it cost the *Darbar* Rs. 6,05,600.

#### Other Raj Military Forces

Lest the raising of the Imperial Service Cavalry should tell upon the state exchequer, the irregulars maintained by the *Darbar* were disbanded and the regular forces reduced. They were composed of *Sardar* Infantry and *pargana* garrison, cavalry, and artillery.<sup>40</sup> As a result of the organisation of the state police the strength of the Infantry at the *sadar* and the *pargana* headquarters was again reduced to 1242 men. The rest of the infantry as also the cavalry were merged in the police force.<sup>41</sup> This infantry henceforth

38 (i) MAR (1907-08), Chap. III Sec. 7, p. 12.

(ii) MAR (1909-10), Chap. III Sec. 18, p. 10

39. (i) For. D: p. 1 Feb 1910 No 66 (AGG to Secy. For. d. April 14, 1910).

(ii) MAR (1908-09), Chap. III, p. 10.

(iii) MAR (1909-10), Chap. III Sec. 18, p. 10.

(iv) MAR (1913-14), Chap. III, para 15, p. 16.

40. (i) MAR (1907-08), Chap. III Sec 7, p. 11 and Appendix III

(ii) MAR (1908-09), Chap. III para 7, p. 10 and Appendix III

(iii) MAR (1909-10), Chap. III, para 8, p. 9 and Appendix III

(iv) MAR (1913-14), Chap. III Sec. 14, p. 16 and Appendix III, p. 83.

41. (i) RSAJ, Haqikat Bahi 33, p. 384.

(ii) RSAJ, Sanad Bahi 153, p. 38.

(i) MAR (1905-06), Chap. III Sec. 7, p. 6.

(iv) MAR (1907-08), Chap. III Sec. 7, p. 10.



furnished guards of honour on ceremonial occasions and provided guards at the *sadar* treasury, jail, observation camps and courts.<sup>42</sup> It was armed with enfield rifles and bayonets.<sup>43</sup> By 1912-13, it was further reduced to 860.<sup>44</sup> That year, the number of artillery men was 160 and they had sixty serviceable guns.<sup>45</sup> The irregulars consisted of *jagir* levies. A scheme was set afoot to commute them for money payment.<sup>46</sup> Consequent upon the withdrawal of a large number of *jagir* levies the Sumer Camel Corps, and the Sumer *Risala* were formed in 1912-13.<sup>47</sup> To them was added Sumer Light Infantry composed of infantry sepoys detailed as guards for district jails and treasuries.<sup>48</sup>

### World War I and Raj Marwar

The European situation precipitated by the Austro-Serbian crisis (June, 1914) soon developed into World War I. The British empire was one of the most important participants in this world conflict. Fear of the emergence of Greater Germany, if France fell, prompted Britain to plunge into it. As soon as Britain declared war against Germany, India had to join it. All her resources in men and might, money and material, were placed at the disposal of His Majesty's government. Even Mahatma Gandhi offered himself for active service. The Congress at the 1914 session resolved to stand by the empire. All the other parties except the Terrorists also declared their support and loyalty to the British empire.<sup>49</sup> The princely states representing nearly one-third of the continent of India offered all possible aid to the empire. Contributions were made by them to the war fund and war loans. Their soldiers fought and won distinctions in various theatres of war in Europe. *Raj* Marwar did not lag behind in this hour of need. It placed at the disposal of the paramount power its prince, its land, its *risala*, its funds, almost everything it had to offer. Animated with the true *Rajput* spirit the *Maharaj*

42. (i) MAR (1905-06), Chap. III Sec. 7, p. 6.  
(ii) MAR (1907-08), Chap. III Sec. 7, p. 10.

43. Ibid.

44. MAR (1912-13), Chap. III Sec. 12, p. 10.

45. Ibid.

46. Ibid.

47. ut supra, Chap. IV, pp 80-89.

48. (i) MAR (1912-13), Chap. III, paras 14 and 15, p. 11.

(ii) Pr. 41 (AGG to Secy. For. No. 244 p. d. Aug. 11) in For. Sec. Sept. 1914 No. 37-43.

49. MAR (1913-14), Chap. III, para 17, p. 18.

(i) Tendulkar, D G, 'Mahatma', pp 187, 190, 277, and 213-85; Letter d. August 14 signed by Gandhi Kastur Ba, Mrs. Naidu, Dr. Jiv Raj Mehta and some other fifty Indians to Under-secretary for State of India d. Aug. 14 quoted in the above work, p. 187.

(ii) Andrews and Mookerjee, The Rise and Growth of Congress in India (1832-1920), pp. 147-48.

Regent Sir Pratap earnestly desired to go to the front and serve His Majesty, even at the ripe old age of seventy two.<sup>50</sup> The minor ruler Sumer Singh also came forward to accompany his troops.<sup>51</sup> Their services were accepted. One regiment consisting of three squadrons of the first regiment and one squadron of the second regiment headed by Sir Pratap and the young *Maharaja* embarked for France.<sup>52</sup> Some *rajvis* and *tazimi sardars* also joined the contingent.<sup>53</sup> It was reinforced and strengthened from time to time. Before leaving Jodhpur the *Maharaja* contributed Rs. 1,00,000 to the Indian War Relief Fund and appealed for further donations to his *sardars* and people. They responded nobly to the call and donated handsomely to it and other relief funds.<sup>54</sup>

At first the Jodhpur Lancers *Risala* were entrusted with the task of protecting the Suez canal, but on reaching it they were ordered to go to Marseilles, the chief sea port of France. From there the contingent was sent by train to Orleans to join the Sikandarabad Lancers<sup>55</sup> and defend the army lines between Armentieres and Givenchy, two towns in France. While doing so it participated in the first battle of Ypres in November, 1914.<sup>56</sup> Next month it was engaged in the fierce battle of Fertubert in which it had the first experience of trench fighting.<sup>57</sup> In winter the *Risala* was billeted in the village of Witternesse and given training in warfare. Meanwhile, during the Christmas week, the Indian Cavalry Corps was formed. The Jodhpur Lancers, the only Imperial Service Troop left in France, was withdrawn from the Sikandrabad Brigade to join the new corps.<sup>58</sup> The Jodhpur Lancers under the command of Gen. Haig took part in

50. Van Wart, op. cit., p. 200.

51. Gehlot, op. cit., pp. 240-41.

(ii) MAR (1913-14), Chap. I Sec. 5, p. 10.

(iii) Asopa, op. cit., p. 323.

(iv) Reu. op. cit., Vol. II, p. 523.

52. (i) MAR (1913-14), Chap. III Sec. 15, p. 16.

(ii) RSAJ, Haqikat Khata Bahi 19, p. 87.

(iii) RSAJ, Haqikat Bahi 43, p. 143.

53. (i) MAR (1913-14), Chap. III Sec. 15, p. 17.

(ii) RSAJ, Haqikat Khata Bahi 20, p. 85.

(iii) RSAJ, Haqikat Bahi 43, pp. 147 and 150-51.

54. (i) Marwar Gazette Vol. XLVIII 47 d. Aug. 15, 1914, p. 274.

(ii) MAR (1913-14), Chap. I Sec. 5, p. 10.

(iii) RSAJ, Haqikat Bahi 19, pp. 86-87.

(iv) Contributions in cash from Marwar towards the War amounted to Rs. 8,51,068 upto Sept. 30, 1918. MAR (1917-18), Chap. I, p. 5.

55. (i) Van Wart, op. cit., p. 202.

(ii) Reu. op. cit., Vol. II, p. 595.

56. (i) Van Wart, op. cit., p. 203.

(ii) Reu. op. cit., Vol. II p. 595.

57. (i) Van Wart, op. cit., p. 203.

(ii) Reu. op. cit., Vol. II, p. 595.

58. Van Wart, op. cit., p. 205.

the battle of Neuve Chapelle in France which was fought between the British and the Germans on March 10-12, 1915, and was an allied victory.<sup>59</sup> In May 1915, Sumer Singh left for Jodhpur. Sir Pratap remained in France sharing the troubles and hardships of his men till early in 1918 when Indian troops were withdrawn from France.<sup>60</sup> In the winter of 1916 and 1917 the *Risala* underwent military training. In the summer of 1917 it was put in reserve and was given training, but in November of the same year, it was engaged in trench warfare on the Hindenburg line. Sir Pratap fought throughout in the battle of Cambrai, where the British took the offensive. The Germans made a counter-attack and all the cavalry regiments were pressed forward to meet it. Sir Pratap wrote "We were in action from daybreak till nightfall on December 1 and suffered twenty eight casualties, four killed, twenty three wounded and one missing".<sup>61</sup>

In January, 1918 when the Indian Cavalry was withdrawn from France, the Jodhpur Lancers were sent to Palestine to support the Imperial Service Cavalry Brigade under Bri. Gen. Harbord. They reached Egypt on March 28.<sup>62</sup> Before they started for Egypt a shield and a flag were presented to the Indian Army on behalf of the women of England in recognition of their services to the empire and the Jodhpur Lancers received the present.<sup>63</sup> In Egypt, both men and officers underwent at Imperial School of Instruction, Zaitoun near Cairo, a course of training to make themselves conversant with the points peculiar to the ensuing Palestine campaign.<sup>64</sup> Early in July, 1918 the Imperial Service Cavalry Brigade moved into the Jordan Valley. Here, the Jodhpur Lancers had hardly taken over when the Turks attacked them, but the brave *Rathores* made a most dashing charge. Major Dalpat Singh galloped on to an enemy machine-gun, killed the gunners and captured the Turkish commanding officer with the machine-gun. Seventy-three Turk soldiers were taken prisoners and three more machine-guns were captured by the Jodhpur Lancers. Major Dalpat Singh gained the Military Cross for his bravery.<sup>65</sup>

59. Van Wart, op cit., p. 20.

60 (i) *Maiwar Gazette* Vol. XLIX 39 d. June 26, 1915, p. 298.

(ii) Van Wart, op. cit., pp. 206-07.

61. (i) Van Wart, op cit., pp. 207-08.

(ii) *Reu*, op. cit., Vol. II, p. 596.

62 (i) Van Wart, op cit., pp. 208 and 210.

(ii) *Reu*, op cit., Vol II, p. 596-97.

63 (i) Van Wart, op cit., pp. 208.

(ii) *Reu*, op cit., Vol II, p. 597.

64. Van Wart, op. cit., p. 210

65. (i) *Reu*, op cit., p. 597

(ii) Van Wart, op. cit., p. 213.

The Jodhpur Lancers again covered themselves with glory, on 23rd September, 1918. They captured at a gallop the fortified town of Haifa. The Jodhpur Lancers chased the Turks and caught seven hundred of them.<sup>66</sup> Here, Major Dalpat Singh fell gloriously at the head of his regiment. His funeral was performed with full military honours.

On October 19, 1918 the contingent took part in an attack on Aleppo. A few days later on October 31, 1918 the Armistice was signed and the Jodhpur Lancers were kept as an army of occupation in Egypt up to November, 1919. They returned to Jodhpur on February 2, 1920 after five years continuous active service.<sup>67</sup>

Besides this field service, which cost the Marwar *Darbar* Rs. 26,08,777 up to the middle of November, 1918<sup>68</sup> and for which 8143 men were recruited from Marwar both for Imperial Service Troops and the Indian Army,<sup>69</sup> the *Raj* contributed Rs. 5,51,068 towards the war up to September, 1918.<sup>70</sup> Thirteen pound shells were manufactured in the Jodhpur State Railway Workshop.<sup>71</sup> The state also maintained a Turkish War Prisoners' camp at Sumerpur at a cost of Rs. 2,20,568.<sup>72</sup> Jodhpur also supplied two ice machines for use in Iraq military hospitals.<sup>73</sup>

In recognition of these gallant services, the British Government conferred titles and honours upon the officers and soldiers, who had taken part in the War. *Maharaja* Sumer Singh was honoured with the title of G.B.E. and Sir Pratap was granted the honour of Lieut. General and G.C.B. by the Indian Government.<sup>74</sup> Honours and rewards were awarded to the officers and

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66. (i) Marwar Gazette (Extra-ordinary) Vol. LIV No. 6, d. Oct. 29, 1918, p. 1. Telegram No. 675 d. Sept. 24, 1918 from G.A.Q. Palestine to Sir Pratap, Alexandria.  
 (ii) Letter d. Sept. 24, 1918 from Major General Macandraw Commanding 5th Cavalry Division, Palestine, loc. cit.  
 (iii) Van Wart, op. cit., p. 216.  
 (iv) Reu, op. cit., Vol. II, p. 597-98.
67. Reu, op. cit., Vol. II, p. 598.
68. RSAJ, MK File on India War Memorial - Services of the Marwar State.
69. Ibid.
70. MAR (1917-18), Chap. I, p. 4.
71. Ibid.
72. (i) For. Int. Part B Sept. 1916 No. 307-40.  
 (ii) For. Int. Part B July 1917 No. 13-15.  
 (iii) RSAJ, MK File on Indian War Memorial.
73. (i) Ibid.  
 (ii) MAR (1917-18), Chap. I, p. 5.  
 (iii) For. Int. Part B May 1916 No. 359-66.
74. (i) For. Sec. I July to Dec. 1918 No. 1-9.  
 (ii) MAR (1917-18), Chap. III, p. 10.  
 (iii) RSAJ, Haqiqat Khata Bahi 20, p. 91.  
 (iv) Van Wart, op. cit., p. 208.

men of the *Sardar Risala* for distinguished conduct on the field. Ninety four medals were received.<sup>75</sup> Wound, injury and family pensions at scales identical with those sanctioned in the Indian Army were granted to benefit those engaged in the deadly struggle. The period of active service was counted as double for pension purposes.<sup>73</sup> Obsolete swords, bayonets, scabbards and pistols were supplied to the *Raj* for the state museum.<sup>77</sup>

### Post-War Reorganisation

As soon as the *Sardar Risala* was mobilised for active service in August, 1914, the Marwar *Darbar* raised its strength to two regiments on the requisition of the paramount power. Quite a large number of recruits was trained and maintained at the depots for replacing casualties.<sup>78</sup> Horses from the Sumer Horse were transferred to the *Risala* and it was amalgamated with the Sumer Camel Corps.<sup>79</sup> Smart men from the artillery, *Sardar* Infantry (which was so named during the war) and *pargana* garrison were sent to the *Risala*.<sup>80</sup>

Besides, the *Raj* in 1915 proposed to reorganise its armed forces and maintain :

- (i) A regiment of cavalry consisting of four squadrons.
- (ii) An infantry regiment of four squadrons.
- (iii) Acamel corps consisting of 400 *sowars* with a complement of machine-guns.

The other regular and irregular forces of the state were to be placed

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|--|----------------------|
| 75. Honours  | Number of recipients |
| Military Cross   | 3                    |
| Order of British India, First Class  | 1                    |
| Order of British India, Second Class   | 5                    |
| Indian Order of Merit  | 11                   |
| (i) MAR (1917-18), Chap. III, p. 10.   |                      |
| (ii) MAR (1921-22), Chap. III, p. 17.  |                      |
| (iii) RSAJ, Haqikat Bahi 46, p. 69.  |                      |
| (iv) RSAJ, Haqikat Bahi 56, p. 233.  |                      |
| (v) Reu, op. cit., p. 529.   |                      |
| 76 (i) For. Int. A Aug. 1920 No. 80-105.   |                      |
| (ii) MAR (1918-19 to 20-21), Chap. III, p. 19.   |                      |
| (iii) MAR (1921-22), Chap. III, p. 17.   |                      |
| 77. For. Int. B Nov 1920 No. 151-57.   |                      |
| 78. (i) Pr. 19 (Dy. Secy. For. to AGG No. 2148/49 I. A. d. Oct. 5) In For. Sec. I Nov. 1914 No. 16-21. |                      |
| (ii) MAR (1914-15), Chap. III, para 13, p. 7. and Appendix III.  |                      |
| (iii) MAR (1915-16), Chap. III, para 14, p. 13 and Appendix III.                                       |                      |
| (iv) MAR 1916-17), Chap. III, p. 6 and Appendix III.   |                      |
| (v) MAR (1917-18), Chap. III, p. 10 and Appendix III.  |                      |
| 79. MAR (1915-16), Chap. III, para 16, p. 16.  |                      |
| 80. (i) Ibid., para 15, p. 15.   |                      |
| (ii) MAR (1916-17), Chap. III, p. 8.   |                      |

under the police and civil authorities.<sup>81</sup> Sir Pratap impressed by the value of infantry in modern warfare also supported the move<sup>82</sup>. The Government of India appreciated the spirit in which the scheme was put forth, but it felt that similar offers might be received from other states and in consequence of their acceptance the balance between the British and the Indian troops was liable to be disturbed. Secondly, giving machine-guns to Imperial Service Troops was against British policy. Thirdly, the organisation of the troops had to be based upon the experience gained from the War. The scheme was, therefore, deferred<sup>83</sup> In June, 1918, however, a full new infantry battalion, designated 1st Battalion 142 and Jodhpur Infantry, was raised for the period of the War. It was composed of four companies: two of *Rajputs*, one of *Rajasthan Muslims* and *Kayamkhanis* and one of *Juts* and other *Hindus*<sup>84</sup> Consequent upon the signing of the armistice this battalion was disbanded. It cost the *Raj* Rs. 4,50,000.<sup>85</sup> The strength of the *Sardar Risala* was also decreased after the cessation of hostilities<sup>86</sup> The *Raj* Military Forces, in September 1921, were composed of:<sup>87</sup>

	Men	Horses	Transport animals.
1. <i>Sardar Risala</i>	970	842	313
2. Artillery and <i>Pargana</i> fort garrison	276		
3. <i>Sardar</i> Infantry	416		
4. Sumer Camel Corps	874		
5. Sumer Infantry	361		
6. <i>Jagir</i> levies	15		

Under a Government of India notification the Imperial Service Troops were styled Indian States Forces and, consequently, the *Raj* Imperial Service Troops, as Jodhpur State Forces.<sup>88</sup> In conformity with the transformation of the Indian *Silahdar* Cavalry Regiments into non *silahdar*, the *Sardar Risala* was also placed on the non-*silahdar* system.<sup>89</sup> The pay of all the ranks was considerably augmented in accordance with a scheme received from the

81. Sub Encl. 1 to Pr. 29 (Sumer Singh to Hardinge d. Nov. 28) in For. Sec. I June, 1917 No. 29-31.

82. (i) Sub Encl. 2 to Pr. 29 (Sir Pratap to RWS d. Nov. 23, 1915), loc. cit. (ii) Pr. 49 (AGG to Secy. For. d. Dec. 23, 1915), loc. cit.

83. Pr. 30 (Dy. Secy. For. to AGG 1335 D Feb. 25, 1916), loc. cit. and also keepwiths to it.

84. MAR (1917-18), Chap. III, p. 8.

85. MAR (1918-19 to 20-21), Chap. III, pp. 18-19.

86. Ibid., p. 20

87. Ibid., pp. 19-21 and Appendix III, p. 97.

88. MAR (1921-22), Chap. III, p. 17.

89. Ibid.

Military Adviser-in-Chief and the strength was reduced to five squadrons.<sup>90</sup> All under measurement men were disbanded.<sup>91</sup>

With the reorganisation of the *Sardar Risala* a transport corps consisting of two troops was formed from February 1, 1922, the mules of the *Risala* being utilised for the purpose.<sup>92</sup> The *Risala* Hospital was also converted into Military Station Hospital from the same date.<sup>93</sup>

Next session, the Sumer Camel Corps and the Sumer Infantry were disbanded from November 1, 1922<sup>94</sup> and the Sardar Infantry reorganised as an Indian state half battalion. It formed part of the reorganised Jodhpur State Forces.<sup>95</sup> In 1924, the Fort Artillery was disbanded and the strength of the Sardar Infantry raised to that of a full battalion in consultation with the Military Adviser.<sup>96</sup> The Transport Corps and the State Band, which were being reorganised on the Indian Army pattern, were also attached to it.<sup>97</sup>

The proposal to classify the Sardar Infantry as 'A' Class Battalion was thus easily agreed to by the paramount power in 1926.<sup>98</sup> The reorganised Jodhpur State Forces consisted of :

<i>Units</i>	<i>Strength</i>
1. Sardar <i>Risala</i>	667 (One Regiment and one Reserve Squadron)
2. Sardar Infantry	444 (Half Battalion)
3. Transport Corps	124 (One draught Troop plus 10% spares)
4. State Military Band	46
5. Military Station Hospital	4

and the state spent Rs. 12,38,430 on them.

Till the outbreak of World War II on September 3, 1939 these forces remained in the state on internal defence and guard duties.<sup>99</sup>

90. MAR (1921-22), Chap. III, p. 27.

91. Ibid.

92. Ibid.

93. MAR (1921-22), Chap. III, p. 17.

94. (i) MAR (1921-22), Chap. III, p. 19.

(ii) MAR (1922-23), Chap. III, p. 17.

95. (i) Pr. 5 (AGG to Sec. For. 344-C d. Dec.) in For. Int. File 245-1 of 1924.

(ii) MAR (1922-23), Chap. III, p. 19.

96. (i) MAR (1921-22), Chap. III, p. 19.

(ii) MAR (1924-26), Chap. III, p. 11-12.

(iii) For. Int. File 245-1 of 1924 (Reorganisation of the Jodhpur Forces).

(iv) For. Int. File 615-1 of 1926.

97. Pr. 8 (Dy. Secy. For. to AGG 2451 I d. May 8, 1926) in File 245-I of 1924.

98. Maharaja of Jaipur, A History of the Indian State Forces, p. 72.

99. (i) Maharaja of Jaipur, op. cit., p. xii (Prelude by R.C. Duncan).  
(ii) Duncan, History of the Jodhpur State Forces (1939-45), p. (ii).

They attained such a high standard of efficiency that during the grim years of war they could be expanded to more than four times its original strength and several of its units served overseas alongside those of British and Indian armies. The growing organisation of the state forces in this way provided employment to the hardy youth of the barren and desolate parts of Marwar where no works of public utility had yet been introduced. Their splendid performance in distant campaigns in the defence of the empire attracted the notice of the paramount power and it threw open the gates of recruitment for them in the British Indian Forces. Kayamthanis, Jats and men of other martial races were also recruited. Wherever the army men went, they saw with their own naked eyes the emerging forces of awakening. On their way back home they carried with them new ideas of progress. They sent their children for school education which had been earlier resisted vehemently. The state on its part looked to the basic needs of the distant recruiting areas.



## Chapter VI

### MEASURES OF ECONOMIC UNITY

The reform of administration gave security, good government and unity of interests to the people. The participation of the state forces in India and abroad revived glory and established new links. The introduction of railways together with Imperial postal unity and the adoption of Imperial currency provided public convenience, removed trade barriers and, above all, knit Marwar in close economic unity with both British and Indian India. The story of the introduction of railways is a fascinating story of Marwar *Darbar's* initiative and the co-operation and understanding of the paramount power and other states of Rajasthan

Till the sixties of the nineteenth century Marwar was practically an isolated tract with scattered villages and scanty population. It had merely overland routes leading to Ajmer, Bikaner, Jaisalmer, Jaipur, Udaipur, Mount Abu and Palanpur, which were further linked with important political and economic centres of the country. The city gates of Jodhpur pointed to the headquarters of important *parganas*. Camel and bullock carts were the principal means of transport. Bullocks could ply everywhere except the trackless desert which could be crossed by camels alone. Carts were of a very primitive design. The rims of the wheels were made of thick pieces of wood and were seldom tyred. The well-to-do and the privileged kept palanquins (*palkies*) and bullock carts called *Raths* and *Bhailis*<sup>1</sup> In towns hackney carriages were used for conveyance. Pack animals - oxen, buffaloes and donkeys - carried goods from one place to another.

#### Introduction of Railways in Rajasthan

After the Uprising of 1857 the necessity for improved means of communication was felt strongly. In consequence, the princes of Rajasthan were sounded for the introduction of railways. The Marwar *Darbar* consented in July, 1866 to cede lands for railway purposes and relinquish duty on all goods passing through the state without breaking bulk.<sup>2</sup> But before railways were introduced in Rajasthan the trunk road from Agra to Ahmadabad had been constructed between 1869 and 1875. It ran for 155 kms through

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1. (i) For. Pol. Cons. 19 d. Oct. 1851 (Routes for traffic in Marwar)  
(ii) Walter, op. cit., pp. 6-41, 59-92.
  - (ii) Hardayal Singh, op. cit., p. 610-12.
  2. (i) Walter, op. cit., p. 66.  
(ii) Erskine, op. cit., p. 122-32.

Marwar from near Sendra in Merwara to the Marwar-Sirohi border close to Erinpura. It was made over to the Marwar *Darbar* who contributed Rs. 4,19,505 towards its construction.<sup>3</sup>

The first railway to traverse Rajasthan was the Rajputana-Malwa Railway on the metre gauge. It ran first of all in 1875 for 24 kms from Sambhar Lake across the salt lake and past Nawa to Kuchman Road.<sup>4</sup> Four years later it entered Marwar near Bar in the east and left it a little below Nana at a distance of 184 kms in the south-east.<sup>5</sup>

### Marwar Junction - Jodhpur Railway

When this section was being constructed Jaswant Singh represented in 1879 that it should pass through the mart of Pali. The proposal would have lengthened the route by eleven kms and was, therefore, dropped.<sup>6</sup> Subsequently, the *Maharaja* made up his mind to connect Jodhpur with this line, and through it with all important points in India. At the time of the death of Ram Singh, the enlightened ruler of Jaipur, Jaswant Singh talked to Bradford, A.G.G., and his engineer Col. Steel.<sup>7</sup> They offered and assured him of all professional assistance for the construction of the proposed line. In September, 1880 Joscelyne, Executive Engineer of the Nasirabad Public Works Division, was deputed as Executive Engineer, Jodhpur Railway Branch Division.<sup>8</sup>

The officials at Jodhpur were, however, opposed to the use of steam locomotives. They favoured a cheaper tramway with the motive power of camels and horses. But as the tram would have resulted in degeneration of horses and yielded no profit it was ultimately agreed to have a line to be operated with locomotive power.<sup>9</sup>

Joscelyne surveyed the route between Bithoora (Marwar Junction) and Pali. On the completion of the survey the construction

3. (i) Pr. 78 (AGG to Secy. For. 313-60 G. d. March 2) in For. Gen. A March 1865, No. 78-79.
- (ii) Reu, op. cit., p. 455.
- (iii) Aitchison, Vol. III (1928) No. IX (Maharaja to AGG d. July 19, 1866).
4. (i) ARS (1874-75), Marwar Agency Report, para 18, p. 99.
5. (i) Gehlot, op. cit., pp 446-7.
- (ii) Erskine, op. cit., Vol. III A, p. 120.
6. (i) Hardayal Singh, op. cit., para 275, p. 642.
- (ii) Reu, op. cit., Vol. II, p. 472.
7. Van Wart, op. cit., p. 70.
8. (i) Hardayal Singh, op. cit., para 276, pp. 642-43.
- (ii) Asopa, op. cit., p. 308.
- (iii) Jodhpur State Railway, p. 4.
9. (i) For. - Precis of correspondence on railways in native states, Chapter X, para 2.
- (ii) Van Wart, op. cit., pp. 70-71.
- (iii) Jodhpur State Railway, p. 1.



tion of the line commenced with the assistance of both the political officers and engineering establishment of Rajasthan.<sup>10</sup> But no sanction of the paramount power was obtained for putting through the project. It was noticed by the higher authorities of British administration only in October, 1881 when the annual report on the states of Rajasthan was published.<sup>11</sup> As a matter of policy the British wanted to keep the country's railways in their own hands as much as possible. On the other hand, since the project was being financed wholly by the Jodhpur *Darbar*, the *Maharaja* took it for granted that the line would be independent of the control of the Government of India. Thus there was a big snag.

Large parts of India were, no doubt, parcelled out into congeries of states. Yet these portions were so closely knit with one another and territories under direct British administration by common interests of trade, political affiliation and friendly intercourse that the interests of none of them could be dissociated from those of India at large. No state, princely or otherwise, could survive in isolation. Hence the railway systems in the states were designed not only to meet local needs but also with a view to co-ordinate the general net-work of communications, through traffic, the maintenance of general postal system, and, above all, the defence of the country. On these considerations and to have an effective and smooth over-all administration, the Government of India had insisted on general control over the management of railways in the country.

A considerable part of the Jodhpur Branch Railway had been laid and had the Government tried to clamp down controls, the *Maharaja* might have been alarmed into abandoning his policy of railway construction. The other chiefs of Rajasthan were watching with a keen eye his initiative in the matter of opening up his state to railway communication. Any embarrassment to him at this stage would have discouraged the other chiefs from attempting to follow his example. The question was whether the adventure would enhance their dignity or embroil them in injudicious disputes and acrimony with the Government. The situation was thus delicate. The Governor-General, Lord Ripon, resisted hasty action lest the future of railways in the region should be jeopardized. He advised the A.G.G. to exercise prudence and impress upon the *Maharaja* the need on the part of the supreme government to satisfy itself concerning all aspects of railway communication such as

10. (i) ARS (1880-81), WRSA Report, para 6.

(ii) Hardayal Singh, op. cit., para 277. p. 643.

11. Keepwiths to For. Gen. A March, 1882 No. 36.

standardisation, extension, insurance against traffic hazards, tariff, etc. in the larger interests of safety and utility. As such, before a railway line started functioning it was subject to inspection and approval by competent railway authority.<sup>12</sup> The *Maharaja* acceded to these terms.<sup>13</sup>

The A.G.G. also suggested that the line might be leased out to the Rajputana-Malwa Railway. But the *Maharaja* was much averse to the plan. He wished the line to be managed by a government officer directly under his own administration. The Mysore, the Nizam and the Gaekwad State railways were precedents in support of Jodhpur. The Government gave in and the *Maharaja* was allowed to have his own way.<sup>14</sup>

Meanwhile, the construction of the line was completed. Before it could be opened for traffic, Joscelyne was succeeded on April 20, 1882 by Home who became the first manager of the Jodhpur Railway. The line was inspected by the Consulting Engineer to the Government of India with Col. Steel on June 28, 1882 and was approved subject to a speed restriction of 20 kms it steamed out for goods traffic on July 19, 1882 and for passenger traffic on July 27, 1882.<sup>15</sup>

It had been originally proposed to build the Bithoora-Marwar-Pali section of the line with new permanent way material to be imported from England. This would have taken a considerable time, but the *Maharaja* was anxious to have the section opened early. Second hand 32 lb. rails were bought from the Rajputana-Malwa Railway and laid on sleepers cut from the jungle wood of Abu.<sup>16</sup> The Jodhpur *Darbar* still owned no engines and rolling stock. It hired them for some time from the Rajputana-Malwa Railway. It also undertook all their repairs and the auditing of station accounts.<sup>17</sup>

The original arrangements for the inter-change of goods traffic at Marwar Railway Junction were primitive. In the case of through

12. (i) For. Pol. Gen. A March, 1882 No. 36 (Secy. For. to AGG No. 309 G d. Feb. 18).

(ii) *Precis of Correspondence on railways in native states*, Vol. II (1887), Chapter X, para 2.

13. Pr. 22 (AGG to Secy. For. No. 312c d. March 13 1882) in For. Gen. A May, 1882 No. 22-25.

14. (i) Pr. 23 (Marwar Darbar to RWRS No. 32 d. Feb. 15, 1882), loc. cit.,

(ii) Pr. 25 (Secy. For. to AGG No. 203 G.F d. May 1, 1882), loc. cit.

15. (i) Pr. 14 (Telegram d. July 14 from AGG to Secy. For.) in For. Gen. A July, 1882 No. 14-16.

(ii) Pr. 16 (Telegram No. 53 R.C. d. July 27 from Secy. PWD to AGG), loc. cit.

(iii) Hardayal Singh, op. cit., para 278, p. 643.

(iv) Jodhpur State Railway, p. 5.

16. Ibid., p. 5.

17. Ibid., p. 4.

traffic from one railway to the other the consignments were booked to the station master, Marwar Junction, who paid freight, took delivery and then rebooked the consignments over the other line. Merchants had to advance him money so that consignments were not held up.<sup>18</sup>

With the advent of the railway some litigation involving the new line inevitably started. The state *hakims* were not at all versed in railway matters. Home was, therefore, invested with magisterial powers in respect of railway cases. He was empowered to try subjects of the Marwar *Darbar* charged with offences committed on the new line, pass sentences of imprisonment upto three months and inflict fines of Rs. 100 and under.<sup>19</sup>

The *Maharaja* was anxious to connect Jodhpur with this railway. So a survey of the Pali-Luni section was taken up. The Luni river lies exactly half way between Jodhpur and Pali by a direct route and is 33 kms away from Pali. But instead of this straight route, Home proposed a longer route of 40 kms involving a diversion of 7 kms so that a branch line could be opened to connect Luni with Pachpadra for capturing its salt traffic.<sup>20</sup> But the rumour that the Pachpadra Salt Works might be closed caused a disturbing effect in the Jodhpur *Darbar* circles. In fact, the Government of India had their own interest in maintaining the salt works. Besides, the Pachpadra salt, being of a superior quality, would, with the opening of the proposed line, readily find a wider market. The Government of India on being referred to by the A.G.G. guaranteed that the Salt Works of Pachpadra would not be closed for ten years.<sup>21</sup> The construction of the Pali-Luni section was then taken up in May, 1883. Within a year, it was completed and on June 17, 1884 opened for traffic.<sup>22</sup>

The advent of the steam locomotive caused tremendous excitement among the local cultivators. A locomotive being able to move backwards and forwards without the aid of animal power was taken for a deity. The public applied '*tilaks*' or upright red marks on the smoke stacks of the engine, and placed money, sweets and other offerings on the footplate.<sup>23</sup> In order to popularise the line, passengers were picked up at any point between stations, fares being charged as from the last station.<sup>24</sup>

18. (i) Hardayal Singh, op. cit., p. 643.

(ii) Jodhpur State Railway, p. 5.

19. Ibid., p. 6.

20. Hardaval Singh, op. cit., para 279, pp. 643-44.

21. For. Gen. A. 1 Nov. 1882 No. 8-10.

22. (i) Hardayal Singh, op. cit., para 286, pp. 648-49.

(ii) Jodhpur State Railway, p. 5.

23. Jodhpur State Railway, p. 7.

24. Ibid.

The line having reached Luni Junction, discussion arose for pushing on to Pachpadra and capturing its salt traffic or constructing a line to connect Luni with Jodhpur as originally planned. The latter alternative was adopted and on March 9, 1885, the section Luni to Jodhpur was opened for traffic.<sup>25</sup>

That year, there was a complete failure of salt supply from Sambhar and Pachpadra could be the best source to supply the deficiency. The construction of the section Luni Junction to Pachpadra was proceeded with at once. But it could not be opened before March 22, 1887.<sup>26</sup> Meanwhile in 1886, railway workshop and stores were built in Jodhpur and the manager changed his headquarters from Marwar Junction to Jodhpur.

### Jodhpur-Bikaner Railway

In 1887, the public of Sind raised a demand for joining Hyderabad with Pachpadra, thereby making a through rail connection with Bombay.<sup>27</sup> About the same time a proposal was put forward for linking Jodhpur with other important towns of the state.<sup>28</sup> The former proposal involved construction of railway through unremunerative desert, and the latter meant building a line through some of the most fertile and prosperous parts of Marwar.

At this very time for strategic considerations the Government of India was anxious to connect the Indus Valley System with the Rajputana System by a cross line of railway from Ajmer to Bahawalpur *via* Pushkar and Nagaur.<sup>29</sup> The project, however, did not materialise, and, therefore, the question of a through line to Bikaner was mooted. Preliminary negotiations were made under the guidance of the A.G.G.<sup>30</sup>

On the advice of the Political Agent, Bikaner, the Resident, Western Rajputana States, sounded the Marwar *Darbar*, who in

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25. (i) ARS (1884-85), WRSA Report, para 47.  
 (ii) MAR (1884-85), para 77, p. 49.  
 (iii) Jodhpur State Railway, p. 8.
26. (i) MAR (1886-87), Chap. VIII, para 38, p. 31.  
 (ii) Jodhpur State Railway, p. 8.
27. (i) Jodhpur State Railway, p. 6.  
 (ii) Encl. to Pr. 242 (Secy to Musahib Ala to RWRS No. 767 d. July 15, 1887) in For. Int. A Aug. 1887 No. 241-43).
28. (i) Pr. 133 (Military Des on Ajmer-Bahawalpur Railway) in For. Int. A April 1886 No. 132-37.  
 (ii) Pr. 242 (RWRS to AGG No. 145-G d. July 18) in For. A Aug. 1887 No. 241-43.
- 30 Pr. 79 (Note on J.B. Railway by Home d. March 27) in For. Int. A Sept. 1888 No. 78-91.

turn obtained a professional and technical report from Home. Three alternative routes were suggested<sup>31</sup> :

- (i) Jodhpur-Bikaner route *via* Kuchera and Nagaur and also Kuchera-Kuchaman route.
- (ii) Kuchaman Road-Bikaner route *via* Didwana and Sujangarh.
- (iii) Ajmer-Bikaner route *via* Merta and Nagaur.

The second and the third alternatives to link Bikaner would have shortened the distance from Bombay to Panjab by 250 kms and served Bikaner interests. But being too distant from Jodhpur, they could neither be useful nor remunerative for Marwar *Darbar*. Home felt that the line from Jodhpur to Bikaner should go by a direct route so as to get the inward sugar traffic from the north as well as salt traffic from Pachpadra in the south. Hence, the first suggestion appeared a sound alternative offering the following advantages<sup>31</sup> :

- (i) Connecting as it would be both the north and the south with the important towns of Jodhpur, Nagaur and Bikaner, it would have a good passenger traffic.
- (ii) Goods traffic from Bombay for Jodhpur and Bikaner states, salt traffic from Pachpadra for stations north of Phulera and sugar traffic to Marwar and Bikaner would pass through Jodhpur lines.
- (iii) The new line would haul salt from Sambhar and Pachpadra to Nagaur and Bikaner and Gypsum from Nagaur to Jodhpur, Bikaner and other places.
- (vi) Moreover, the marble quarries of Makrana, which lay unused for want of transport, would also be tapped.

This scheme which consisted of the construction of a line from Jodhpur to Kuchera and Bikaner *via* Nagaur and another line from Kuchera to Kuchaman soon met with the approval of the Marwar *Darbar* and it agreed to execute it as a joint enterprise on the following conditions<sup>32</sup> :

- (i) The line would be called the Jodhpur-Bikaner Railway and its construction would commence from the terminus of the Jodhpur Branch Railway.
- (ii) Separate estimates would be made for Marwar and Bikaner portions of the line.

31. Pr. 79 (Note on J.B. Rly. by Home d. March 27), loc. cit.

32. Pr. 82 (Musahib Ala to RWRS No. 442 d. April 38, 1888), loc. cit.



- (iii) The joint enterprise would be supervised by Home, Manager of the Jodhpur railway. He would appoint and control the station and police staff in both the states under the supervision of their respective *darbars*.
- (iv) The cost of the line from Jodhpur to Kuchera and from thence to the Bikaner State border would be borne by the Marwar *Darbar* and that of the line from the Bikaner State border to Bikaner city by the Bikaner State.
- (v) Capital for the construction of the line within Marwar border would be lent at 4% interest by the Bikaner *Darbar*. It would be paid off in annual instalments of three lacs of rupees from the salt treaty payments.
- (vi) The portion from Kuchera to Kuchaman Road essential for the success of the project would be constructed later by the Marwar *Darbar*.
- (vii) The Marwar *Darbar* would retain civil and criminal jurisdiction over its portion of the line.
- (viii) The Government of India's project of a telegraph line from Ajmer to Bikaner *via* Merta, Moondwa and Nagaur would be given up since telegraph line along the proposed railway route would be constructed and managed by the Jodhpur-Bikaner Railway.

The Regency Council of the Bikaner State found the project of a real benefit to Bikaner and its people as an insurance against famine, as a work of utility and convenience, as a promoter of trade and commerce and as a safe investment of capital. The finances of the Bikaner State were in a sound condition with a surplus of Rs.20,00,000 and an annual saving of Rs. 4,00,000. No other alternative works of public utility could be undertaken to invest savings with security. The Bikaner State was not in a position to command railway for a limited route. Jodhpur had made some enterprise in the maintenance and management of railway. A joint system of management looked profitable. The Bikaner Regency Council, therefore, agreed to the proposal and lent Rs. 20,00,000 to the Marwar *Darbar*.<sup>33</sup> The manager of the Bombay, Baroda and Central India Railway also hailed the project as an important

33. Pr. 80 (Kaifiat from Regency Council, Bikaner, to P.A., Bikaner d. May 5, 1888), loc. cit.

scheme of arterial communication. He also assured the A.G.G. to render assistance and not to enter into any undue competition.<sup>34</sup>

As already indicated earlier, the Government of India was equally desirous of this line. The scheme was, therefore, soon approved and a draft agreement, to be entered into by the states of Marwar and Bikaner with the Government of India, was prepared.<sup>35</sup> The Bikaner *Darbar* accepted the agreement without demur.<sup>36</sup> But the Jodhpur *Darbar* took an exception to the article which dealt with the cession of civil and criminal jurisdiction.<sup>37</sup> Jaswant Singh was proud of his line, but he was prouder of the jurisdiction he possessed.

As a rule, the Imperial Government did not press a chief to cede jurisdiction over a railway (a) constructed by him, (b) situated entirely in his own territory and (c) consisting of an isolated local line. The Jodhpur-Bikaner line was not being constructed by the Jodhpur *Darbar* alone. It was not confined to Jodhpur territory and could scarcely be classed an isolated local line. Hence the Foreign Department of the Government of India could not agree with the Jodhpur *Darbar*. Besides, if it yielded jurisdiction to Jodhpur, it would have to be yielded elsewhere. Hyderabad and Kashmir had ceded it without murmur. Again, Jodhpur could not point to its courts with admiration like Baroda and Mysore. Then by allowing the Jodhpur *Darbar* to retain jurisdiction, the supreme government would simply be courting difficulties.<sup>38</sup>

The A.G.G., Walter, very well realised that the paramount power must guard against future possible contingencies by being able to assume jurisdiction over any line where Imperial interest might require it. Yet on the recommendation of Col. Powlett, Resident, he supported the Jodhpur *Darbar* on the following grounds:

- (i) During the seven years of the existence of the Jodhpur Railway no inconvenience had arisen from the possession of jurisdiction by the *Darbar* and no inconvenience was anticipated as a result of the extension.
- (ii) If any serious inconvenience were to appear, the Government of India would and could insist upon exercising jurisdiction, whether an agreement authorised it or not.

34. Pr. 88 (Note by Bisset on Jodhpur-Bikaner Rly. Project d. June 16), loc. cit.

35. (i) Pr. 91 (Sec. For. to AGG 3660-I d. Sept. 11), loc. cit.

(ii) Pr. 205 (AGG to Secy. For. 381 G. d. Feb. 9, 1889) in For. Int. A Sept, 1889 No. 205-216.

36. Pr. 207 (Bikaner *Darbar*'s letter of assent), loc. cit.,

37. Pr. 208 (Musahib Ala, Jodhpur to RWRS No. 109, d. Jan. 30), loc. cit.,

38. Keepwith 2 (Durand to Walter), loc. cit.,

- (iii) The *Maharaja* of Jodhpur had not shown any keen interest in the line. It was Bikaner and the British government who wanted it. If a distasteful agreement was forced upon him, he might reprieve the scheme.

Finally, Col. Walter impressed upon the paramount power that so long the proposed line was carried on satisfactorily, the jurisdiction should not be assumed. In case it was assumed on account of valid grounds, the right should be restored to the chief as soon as the necessity disappeared.<sup>39</sup> The very idea of surrendering jurisdiction even in the distant future was too bitter a pill for the *Maharaja* to swallow. The atmosphere was surcharged with emotions. The *Maharaja* was brought round by the A.G.G. and on his behest the *Musahib Ala* wrote to the Resident:

"The *Darbar* consents to the agreement as received from the A.G.G. on the full understanding that it will not be deprived of jurisdiction on the Jodhpur-Bikaner line as long as things work smoothly, and there is no Imperial need for an assumption of jurisdiction by Government and that the *Darbar* will not at any time be deprived of jurisdiction on account of any temporary cause."<sup>40</sup>

The draft agreement was then received by the Foreign Department. In consultation with the Railway Department it was signed by the three parties: the Marwar *Darbar* and the Bikaner *Darbar* and the A.G.G. on behalf of the Imperial government.<sup>41</sup>

There began the alliance with the Bikaner *Darbar* and the formation of the Jodhpur-Bikaner Railway. Each *Darbar* constructed the line in its own territory and each was to finance the maintenance and working of its own portion. This line was opened for traffic upto Merta Road (102 kms) on April 8, 1891, upto Nagaur (55 kms) on October 16, 1891 and up to the Jodhpur frontier near Chilo Junction (49 kms) on December 9, 1891.<sup>42</sup> An extension from Merta Road to Kuchaman Road was completed and opened on March 13, 1893.<sup>43</sup>

### Jodhpur-Hyderabad Railway

Karachi had long wished for a direct railway communication with the North-west of India. Surveys had been conducted for

39. Keepwiths to For. Int. A Sept. 1889 No. 205-216.

40. Ibid.

41. Aitchison, Vol. III (1932), No. XIX, pp. 170-71.

42. MAR (1891-92), Chap. XII, p. 24.

43. MAR (1892-93), Chap. XI Sec. I (A), p. 25.

such a line running through the deserts of Rajasthan and Sindh. The Government of India offered concession for the construction of this line. Owing to the barren nature of the intervening country, no one came forward. The financial success of such a railway was improbable<sup>44</sup>

The Jodhpur *Darbar*, therefore, considered the moment favourable for launching a proposal to construct a line from Balotra on the J.B. Railway to Shadipalli in Sindh and another from Makrana on the same railway to Rewari Junction on the Rajputana-Malwa Railway thereby offering an alternative route to the Delhi-Kotri project which was falling through.<sup>45</sup>

The proposed extension would pass through the states of Jaipur and Marwar and through British territory for 105 kms after leaving Marwar border. It would also run for a short distance through British territory south of Rewari.<sup>46</sup> In other words, it would have three sections :—

- (i) Jaipur section of 192 kms from Rewari to Marwar border.
- (ii) Marwar section consisting 32 kms from Jaipur border to Makrana, 300 kms from Makrana to Balotra and 176 kms from Balotra to the British border.
- (iii) British section of 105 kms from Marwar border to Umarkote.

The extension provided a direct line for connecting the country round Delhi with the port of Karachi and a much shorter route for the latter from Bombay *via* Marwar Junction. It would be of immense service to the paramount power in time of need.<sup>47</sup> But there were great hazards in the way of carrying out the project.

It could only be on the Jodhpur-Bikaner pattern a joint effort on the part of Jodhpur and Jaipur *darbars* and the British Government through whose lands it would run. The Jaipur *Darbar* would not finance the project since her benefit would not be commensurate with the investment.<sup>48</sup> Secondly, the Bombay, Baroda and Central India Railway had already projected the Rewari-Phulera chord line to increase the carrying capacity of the Rajputana-Malwa Railway. The proposed line from Makrana to Rewari was only an

44. Pr. 15 (Note by Home d. Feb. 8 in For. Int. A July 1893 No. 12-17.

45. Jodhpur State Railway (1882-1932), p. 11.

46. Pr. 15 (Note by Home d. Feb. 8), loc. cit.,

47. Ibid.

48. Ibid.

alternative to the above project and would run almost parallel to the Bombay, Baroda and Central India Railway's proposed line for a considerable distance.<sup>49</sup> Hence the latter would oppose its construction tooth and nail.

The Government of India, therefore, considered this project as two separate schemes, and approved of the first part of the line from Balotra to Umarkote and ordered its survey. The A.G.G. was advised to ascertain whether the Jodhpur *Darbar* would view favourably the construction of this connection and whether it would be prepared to find means for the portion of the line lying within its own territories, if the portions in the British territory were constructed by the Government of India.<sup>50</sup>

The Jodhpur *Darbar* expressed its willingness to undertake at its own cost and throughout its own territories the extension of the railway line to Shadi-palli if the supreme government gave assurances on the following points :

- (i) The extended line was managed by the manager of the J. B. Railway.
- (ii) The *Darbar* was allowed to retain the civil and criminal jurisdiction over the extension through its territories. An efficient police arrangement on the line would be maintained under a European police officer lent by the Government.
- (iii) With the opening of the proposed extension the traffic on the existing line from Kuchaman to Balotra would increase. In order to cope with the increasing traffic it would be desirable to relay the entire line with 50 lb rails replacing the 36 lb rails. Lest this additional source of expenditure should unduly saddle the finances of the state, the *Darbar* wanted that the question of strengthening the line from Kuchaman Road to Balotra might stand over till all the debts were cleared off or till the annual receipts from the increased traffic on the extended line amounted to nearly one-fourth of the capital required for the purpose.
- (iv) The Raiputana-Malwa Railway and other railways would not impose prohibitive tariff over their lines on goods passing through this railway.

49. Pr. 16 (Note by Jacob d. Feb. 15) in For. Int. A July 1893 No. 12-17.

50. Jodhpur State Railway (1882-1932), p. 8.

51. Pr. 13 (Secy. PWD to AGG No. 488 R.C., d. May 16), loc. cit.,

- (v) This outlay on the part of the *Darbar* would be considered a sort of contribution towards the Imperial defence. The *Darbar* would carry free of charge in time of war the British army and ammunition over this line.<sup>52</sup>

Except the question of jurisdiction all the other points were disposed of to the satisfaction of the Marwar *Darbar*. The paramount power could not allow it retention of jurisdiction for varied reasons. It would form an undesirable precedent. No other state in India exercised police jurisdiction on a section of the line subject to the control of the Government. Secondly, the line would pass through both British and state territories. Thirdly it would, become part of a through line<sup>53</sup> On the other hand, *Maharaja* Jaswant Singh felt that withdrawal of jurisdiction meant diminution of his *izzat*.<sup>54</sup>

In order to remove the deadlock the A.G.G. sought the concurrence of the Viceroy to advise the *Maharaja* to cede railway jurisdiction. In return the Government would, in a couple of years, concede to the *Darbar* the entire administration of Malani. This special favour would show that the cession of jurisdiction in no way involved loss of *izzat* which to the *Rathore* chief was first of all things.<sup>55</sup> But the Government continued the stubborn attitude and advised the A.G.G. not to broach the subject.<sup>56</sup>

Jaswant Singh, who was personally opposed to ceding jurisdiction, passed away on October 11, 1895, and a famine overtook Marwar next year. As Regent, Sir Pratap wanted to undertake the earthwork of the proposed line as a famine-relief work. But it could not be undertaken till the jurisdiction issue remained undecided. He was thus confronted with a heavy responsibility. He hesitated to act contrary to the late chief's wishes; but three considerations had weighed before him. Firstly, if the paramount power decided to construct the entire line from its own resources, Jodhpur would have to cede jurisdiction. Secondly, the extension of the line from Bikaner northwards, which was desired by the Bikaner *Darbar*, would of itself settle the point, as by article 7 of the agreement the Government could claim jurisdiction whenever it considered it desirable. Thirdly, it would be unreasonable to postpone the issue till the new

52. Pr. 173 (Memo. d. Dec. 17, 1894 from Musahib Ala), in For. Int. A Feb. 1895 No. 160-74.

53. Pr. 174 (Secy. For. to AGG No. 265-1 Jan. 21, 1895) loc. cit.

54. (i) For. Int. A Feb. 1895 No. 160-74 and keepwiths (Summary of the talk between the Maharaja and the AGG on Dec. 12, 1894) to it  
(ii) Pr. 172 (AGG to Secy. For. No. 32. C d. Dec. 18), loc. cit.

55. Pr. 1 (AGG to Secy. For.) in For. Sec. 1 March 1895 No. 1-3.

56. Pr. 3 (Secy. For. to AGG d. Feb. 26), loc. cit.

*Maharaja* came of age. In the circumstances, Sir Pratap sought the sanction from the Government to undertake the construction of the part lying within Marwar subject to the readiness of the Government to construct the portion situated in the British territory. He left the jurisdiction question entirely in the hands of the paramount power.<sup>57</sup> The commencement of the earthwork of the proposed railway was of approved by the Governor-General-in-Council.<sup>58</sup> The line was finally opened on December 22, 1900.<sup>59</sup>

As a result of this extension the broad gauge line, that had existed from Shadipalli to Hyderabad, was converted to metre gauge and its management entrusted to the J. B. Railway under an agreement with the Government of India.<sup>60</sup> The Shadipalli-Hyderabad Railway, which had so long run into loss every year, soon became a paying line under the J.B. Railway management. It gave a new fillip to railway construction. Mirpurkhas Jhudo and Mirpurkhas-Khadro sections were projected. The Jodhpur-Bikaner Railway built them on behalf of the Sindh Light Railway and also maintained and managed them under an agreement with the paramount power. The construction and maintenance of railways in British territory by the Jodhpur-Bikaner Railway constitutes a unique example where the management by a princely state railway was uniformly relied upon.

### Administrative Organisation

Prior to the opening of the Balotra-Shadipalli section, the entire J.B. Railway was run by the manager with one assistant. In 1901, however, the railway was divided into two districts, each in charge of a district manager, who looked after both engineering and traffic work.<sup>61</sup> The same year, the J.B. Railway Audit department came into being and G. N. Goyder was appointed as Auditor.<sup>62</sup>

Meanwhile, in 1897, electrification was started as an experimental measure on certain trains.<sup>63</sup> The Jodhpur-Bikaner Railway was indeed one of the first railways in India to instal electric lighting in trains, and this at a time when electric lighting of trains, was

57. No. 184 P. d. Jan 23, 1896 in For. Int. A May, 1896 No. 181-186.

58. Pr. 185 (Secv. For. to AGG), loc. cit.

59. (i) MAR (1900-01), Chap. XIII, p. 11.

(ii) ARS (1900-01), WRSA Report, p. 19.

60. Jodhpur State Railway (1882-1932), p. 8.

61. Ibid, p. 10.

62. Ibid, p. 10.

63. (i) MAR (1896-97), Chap. XII Sec. 1, p. 50.

(ii) MAR (1897-98), Chap. XIII Sec. 1, p. 46.

64. Jodhpur State Railway, p. 10.

comparatively rare, even in England.<sup>64</sup> In 1902, the system was extended and all the main line trains were electrically lit.<sup>65</sup>

### Other Branch Railways

The short branch line 15 kms from Merta Road to Merta city was built and opened for traffic on January 17, 1905.<sup>66</sup> The next project was to provide railway communication to the land called *Thali* roughly 256 kms x 208 kms lying between the J.B. Railway and the Rajputana-Malwa Railway unprovided with any means of communication other than cart tracks. No doubt, it was a desert and desolate land, but besides the salt mart of Didwana, it contained a number of towns inhabited by wealthy Marwaris, who carried on flourishing trade at Calcutta, Bombay and other centres of commerce in various parts of India.<sup>67</sup> A line from Borawar to Bhatinda was projected in order to provide public convenience and safety from famine but it was objected to by the Jaipur *Darbar*. He wished to extend Jaipur-Sawaimadhopur Railway to the north to Churu.<sup>68</sup> An alternative alignment was then considered from Degana, passing through Khatu, Didwana, Ladnu, Sujangarh and Churu. This was constructed and opened for traffic on September 16, 1909.<sup>69</sup> On being extended up to Hissar in 1911 it provided an alternative connection to Delhi where the capital of India was transferred to in 1912. It was followed by the construction of a two feet gauge steam tramway line from Pipar Road to Bilara to serve the grain marts of Pipar, Bhavi and Bilara and the large irrigated tract below the newly built Jaswantsagar.<sup>70</sup> This work was undertaken by the state public works department and later on transferred to the J.B. Railway with effect from February 5, 1913.<sup>71</sup>

The Jodhpur-Phalodi branch, 129 kms in length, was the next line to be constructed. Primarily planned for famine-relief work, it

65. (i) MAR (1903-4), Chap. XII-A, p. 8.

(ii) Jodhpur State Railway, p. 10.

66. MAR (1904-05), para 26, p. 19.

67. (i) For. Int. B March 1906 No. 151 (Borawar-Hansi Railway Project).

(ii) Encl. 7 to Pr. 107 (Senior Member to RWRS No. 1195/Rly. d. March 22, 1906) in For. Int. B March, 1908 No. 107-19.

68. Jodhpur State Railway (1882-1932), p. 10.

69. MAR (1908-9), Sec. 27, p. 30.

70. (i) MAR (1908-9), Sec. 23 (c) 7, p. 26.

(ii) MAR (1909-10), Sec. 33 (c) 6, p. 30.

71. (i) MAR (1913-14), Sec. 33 (d), p. 35 and Sec. 35, p. 39.

(ii) Gehlot, op. cit., p. 447.

72. (i) Pr. 34 (Sanders, Secy. to the AGG-PWD to Secy. For. No. 511-C.S. d. Feb. 19) in For. Int. A Aug. 1912 No. 34-38.

(ii) MAR (1913-14), Sec. 38, p. 50.

(iii) Pr. 35 (Dy. Secy. For. to AGG No. 701 I.B. d. March 20) loc. cit.

(iv) Jodhpur State Railway, p. 11.



developed into a paying branch and proved a feeder line to the Jodhpur section of the J.B. Railway. It was opened for traffic on May 12, 1914.<sup>72</sup> An extension through Pokran in Jaisalmer territory was contemplated, but it couldn't materialize before 1968.<sup>73</sup>

Another proposal to construct a metre gauge loop line from Marwar Junction towards Desuri and the surrounding country was made in July, 1914. It would have passed through Jojawar, Desuri, Sadri, and Bali and joined the Rajputana-Malwa Railway at Sanderao. The line had many potential advantages. Besides opening up this portion of the country and giving a good return on the invested capital, it would have greatly facilitated the transport of grass and fodder that grows in abundance in the Aravalli hills to Jodhpur and other places and proved a protective measure against scarcity. Secondly, the line would have served the interests of two important *pargana* headquarters, Desuri and Bali. The line would have also touched places of *Jain* pilgrimage and thus acted as a useful feeder both for the Jodhpur and the Rajputana-Malwa Railway.<sup>74</sup> Part of the formation for this work was actually done, though the project never materialized.<sup>75</sup> The formation was actually used when the line to Phulad was opened to connect Jodhpur Railway with the Udaipur-Chittorgarh Railway.<sup>76</sup> In 1915, the Ladnu branch was constructed, but as its working proved uneconomical, the main line to Sujargarh was realigned in 1932 to include Ladnu.<sup>77</sup>

### Railway Systems and Sections

Projects for the extension of railways engaged the attention of the *Raj* but consequent upon the outbreak of World War I no new work was undertaken till 1923.<sup>78</sup> Meanwhile, the dissolution of the joint working of the Jodhpur-Bikaner Railway was mutually agreed upon and carried into effect from November 1, 1924.<sup>79</sup> After this

73. Encl. to Pr. 34 (RWRS to Secy. to AGG -PWD No. 34 d. Feb 18, 1912), loc. cit.

74. Pr. 136 (Senior Member, MK to RWRS No. 889/Rly-113) in For. Pol. Int. A June 1914 No. 136-51.

75. (i) For. Pol. Int. Oct. 1921 No. 37-46 Part B - Sanderao Railway.  
(ii) RSAJ, WRSR File No. of 1912 (Vice President, State Council to RWRS No. F. P. II Rly./12/1496 d. Dec. 1930).

76. Jodhpur State Railway, p. 9.

77. (i) MAR (1915-16), Chap. IV Sec. 41, p. 53.

(ii) Jodhpur State Railway, p. 12.

78. (i) For. Pol. Est. B June, 1920 No. 156.

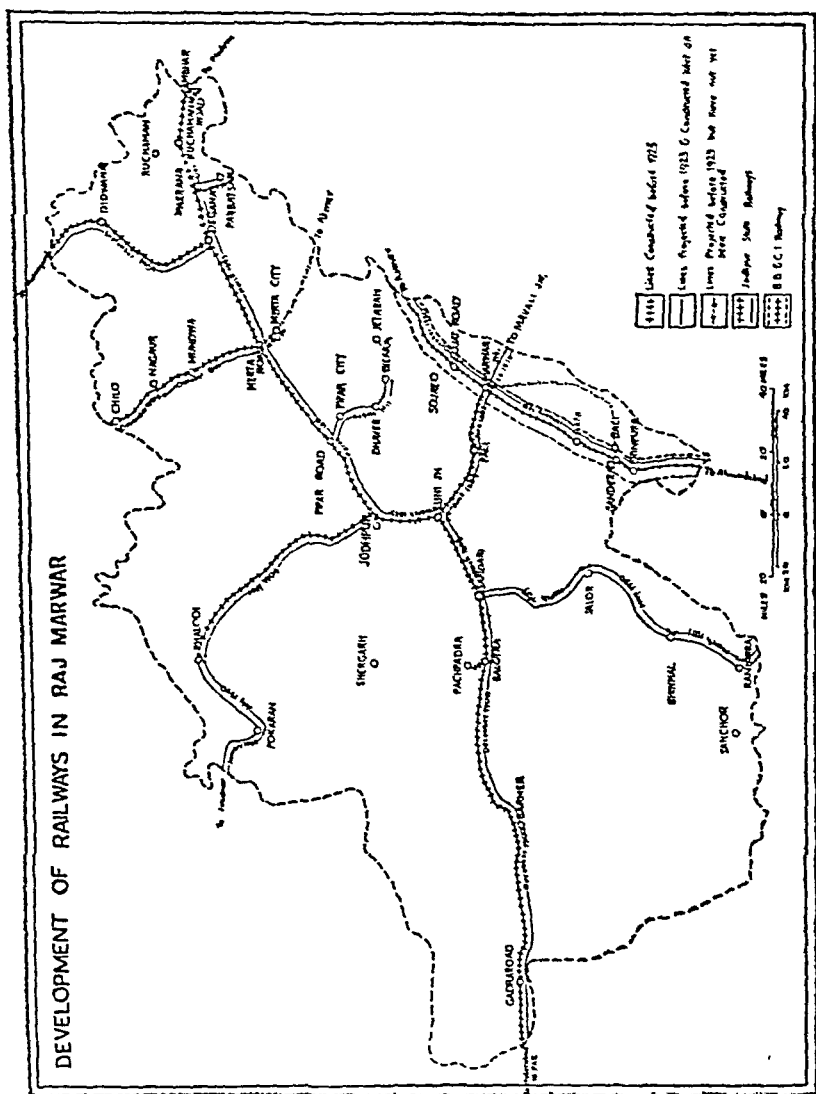
(ii) MAR (1922-23), Chap. 1, p. 5.

79. (i) MAR (1924-25 to 25-26), Chap. IV, p. 50.

(ii) J. Rly. Annual Administration Report (1924-25), para 1, p. 1.

(iii) Jodhpur State Railway, p. 12.

(iv) Reu, op. cit., Vol. II, p. 603.



separation Marwar was traversed by two Railway systems - the Rajputana-Malwa Railway and the Jodhpur Railway.<sup>80</sup>

The Rajputana-Malwa Railway belonged to the Government of India and had a length within Jodhpur limits of about 210 kms. It was leased to the Bombay-Baroda and Central India Railway. The main line entered the state near Bar in the east and left it a little below Nana in the south-east. From Sambhar a branch ran for 24 kms across the salt lake and past Nawa to Kuchaman Road.<sup>81</sup>

The length of the Jodhpur Railway was 1015 kms consisting of fourteen sections as shown in the map. Besides, under agreement between the Government of India and the *Maharaja* of Jodhpur, the Jodhpur Railway system managed, maintained and worked the Shadipalli-Hyderabad and the Mirpurkhas-Jhudo Railway in Sindh with 358 route kilometres.<sup>82</sup> Of the twenty two *parganas* of Marwar sixteen were served by the railway. The *parganas* not at all served by railway till 1923 were Jalore, Jaswantpura, Sanchores, Siwana, Sheo and Shergarh.<sup>83</sup> The Agra-Ahmadabad trunk road, constructed between 1869-75 at a cost of nearly five lacs of rupees, was superseded by the railway system, and it merely remained a fair weather road. With the opening of railways the Imperial Postal and Telegraph Systems were extended to Marwar.<sup>84</sup>

### Imperial Postal Unity

In former times runners called *kaseeds* carried *dak*.<sup>85</sup> Urgent service was rendered by *sandani sowars* called *oti*.<sup>86</sup> Messages were also flashed with mirrors stationed at different points.<sup>87</sup> During the Mughal period the Imperial *dak* between Gujarat and Delhi was carried *via* Marwar wherein lay a dozen *dak* chowkis in the *parganas* of Merta, Jodhpur, Sojat and Godwar, each under a *Mirdha* who had a number of *kaseeds* at his disposal.<sup>88</sup> In those days it took 15, 10, 6, 8, 5 and 8 days in bringing *dak* to Jodhpur

80. With the exception of the Pipar-Bilara line on the J.B. Railway both the Rajputana Malwa and J.B./J. Railway were on the metre gauge with effect from August 2, 1928

(i) Erskine, op. cit., Chap. VIII, p. 120.

(ii) MAR (1913-14), Sec. 35, p. 39.

(iii) History of Indian Railways (1927-28), p. 114.

81. Erskine, op. cit., Vol. III A, Chap. VIII, p. 120.

82. (i) Aitchison, op. cit., Vol. III (1928), pp. 193-210 (Treaties).

83. See Railway Map of Marwar.

84. Erskine, op. cit., Chap. VIII, p. 141.

85. Hardayal Singh, op. cit., para 233, p. 606.

86. Ibid., p. 607.

87. (i) Ibid., pp. 629-30.

(ii) Erskine, op. cit., Chap. XXII, p. 206.

88. Hardayal Singh, op. cit., para 234, p. 607.

from Kabul, Peshawar, Lahore *via* Bikaner, Lahore *via* Delhi, Ahmadabad and Burhanpur respectively. The foot *kaseeds* ordinarily travelled 48 kms (15 *kos*) a day. They could do 64 kms in twenty four hours (eight *pohars*.) The indigenous postal system was not a regular phenomenon till the thirties of the nineteenth century. Letters and parcels were carried by private agencies - *Brahmani dak*, *Mahajani dak*, *Mirdha dak*, etc. Local *dak* was carried from one place to another by *Sargaras* and *Bhambis* whose chief occupation was the removal of the dead bodies of horned animals and tanning of leather. They lived behind the city and town gates.<sup>89</sup>

When the British undertook the administration of Malani in 1834, *dak* was sent from Ajmer to that district *via* Jodhpur and vice versa. With the foundation of the Political Agency an Imperial post office was set up at Jodhpur in 1839. Consequent upon shifting the Rajputana Agency from Ajmer to Mount Abu, post offices were established at Bar, Sojat, Pali and Jawai (Erinpura) in Marwar. They were linked with Jodhpur *via* Pali. Postal services were opened at important salt marts and centres of trade. Thus there were in Marwar twelve post offices in 1884 at the following places (i) Bali (ii) Didwana (iii) Jodhpur (iv) Kuchaman (v) Ladnu (vi) Merta (vii) Moondwa (viii) Nagaur (ix) Nawa (x) Pali (xi) Sambhar and (xii) Sojat.<sup>91</sup> In the following year, the *Darbar* adopted Imperial Postal Unity and post offices were opened at all *pargana* headquarters. The state was included in 1908 in the Rajputana circle.<sup>92</sup> At the close of the year 1923 the number touched 135.

With the construction of the Imperial road a telegraph office was established at Pali, but it was closed in September, 1880. Telegraph wires also passed through Sanchoe and Malani. In 1885, a telegraph line was constructed for the use of the Jodhpur Railway.<sup>93</sup> With the building of the J.B. Railway, the railway telegraph service was extended.<sup>4</sup> In the beginning railway service was limited. Its telegraph offices could accept public messages for trans-

89. Hardayal Singh, *op. cit.*, paras 233 and 236-37, pp. and 608-09.

90. *Ibid.*, paras 239 and 257-58, pp. 610 and 625-26.

91. (i) Memo d. Jan. 8, 1885 in MK File 12 A Part I (1912).

(ii) Erskine, *op. cit.*, Vol. III A, Chap. VIII, p. 123.

(iii) MAR (1884-85), para 136, p. 77.

92. (i) MAR (1907-08), Chap. IV Sec. 23, p. 38.

(ii) Erskine, *op. cit.*, Vol. III A, Chap. VIII, p. 123.

93. (i) ARS (1874-75), Marwar Agency Report, para 26, p. 101.

(ii) ARS (1880-81), Marwar Agency Report, para 29.

(iii) Hardayal Singh, *op. cit.*, para 267, p. 632.

(iv) MAR (1884-85), para 137, p. 77.

mission, but as its work grew, public telegrams began suffering delay and distortion.<sup>94</sup> The Imperial Telegraph System was introduced in 1906 in the interests of trade and public convenience and combined post and telegraph offices were opened in Marwar.<sup>95</sup>

### Impact of New Means of Communications

The railway was the richest perennial source of revenue of the state. Its earnings in 1922-23 amounted to Rs. 21,54,182 on a total capital outlay of Rs 2,96,29,012, as shown in the following table:<sup>96</sup>

Year	Route RM Rly.	Kilometres JB/J. Rly.	Capital Outlay In lacs	Gross Earnings of rupees	Net Earnings
1878	24	—	—	—	—
1883	206	30	4.998	.403	.231
1888	206	198	22.800	3.608	1.915
1893	206	395	67.746	8 317	4.338
1898	206	608	113.421	19 091	11.668
1903	206	728	119.314	16.347	8 911
1908	206	740	142.854	19.282	8 650
1914	206	979	187.267	36 674	17.987
1919	206	1014	217.171	59.153	32.529
1924	206	1015	299.252	69.196	22.341

Half the receipts of the state were derived from railways alone. The state could easily undertake works of public utility and welfare.

The new means of communication helped the administration a good deal in the prevention of crimes and robberies and maintenance of law and order. Up till 1904 the public works department of the state was under the manager of the railway. Several works of public utility and public interest like Jaswant Samand, Sardar Samand, Kharda Bandh, Marble Cenotaph and Conservancy tramway were executed under his supervision.<sup>97</sup>

The railway and postal services opened the state to trade and traffic. Transit duties and other barriers of trade were done away with under the impact of railways. They brought Marwar in

94. Keepwiths (precis of notes) to For. Int. Aug. 1906 No. 34-37.

95. (i) For. Int. A April 1907 No. 66-68.

(ii) For. Int. Sec. A Oct. 1907 No. 55-56.

96. (i) History of Indian Railways (1927-28). p. 114 and (1948-49), p. 117.

(ii) MAR (1884-85 to 1923-24), relevant portions.

97. (i) Keepwiths to For. Int. May, 1907 No. 139-141.

(ii) MAR (1907-08), Chap. IV Sec. 22, p. 36.

(iii) Jodhpur State Railway (1882-1932), p. 11.

close touch with other parts of India, where *Marwaris* carried on trade. Railways encouraged the export of salt and wool, hides and skin and marble and stone, and the import of manufactured and finished goods. Cash crops also received a fillip. Railways transported surplus stocks of grain out of Marwar during years of bumper harvest, and brought in hard money. Thus the regional economy was fully rehabilitated. Measures prohibiting export of grain were no longer to the interest of the state.<sup>98</sup> The *Banjaras* and *Baldia Bhats*, who transported goods from one place to another on bullocks and other pack animals had to give up their ancestral occupation. They took to a settled life and adopted new means of livelihood in cottage industries. As this transport service disappeared, the cruel system of sale of children also came to an end.<sup>99</sup>

Railways proved the surest weapon of defence against agrarian troubles, famines and other natural calamities. Fodder and grains were imported from Sindh and Uttar Pradesh in times of scarcity. Railways proved to be a saviour of men and animals in the terrible famine of 1899-1900. Population was also stabilised. Formerly, the famine-afflicted emigrated to other regions with little hope of returning home. Railways assured them a constant touch with the homeland and their people.<sup>100</sup> The old towns of Bhikamkore, Bisalpur, Jasole, Kaparda, Khandap, Khudala, Kuchera, Thanwla Tinwari, etc. lost significance as trade marts. The new townships of Balotra, Gachhipura, Gotan, Makrana, Mathania, Merta Road, Rani, etc. emerged.

Railways exercised a considerable influence on the habits of the people. Observance of caste rules was relaxed. A good deal of *Hindustani* and English words were introduced in every day use. The Jodhpur-Bikaner Railway opened new avenues of employment both for the educated and the uneducated and thus encouraged education and the settlement of lawless elements to peaceful pursuits. That way like the present day blocks, important railway stations became centres of changing life and wider vision.

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98. (i) Drake Brockman, Settlement of khalsa villages, para 18, p. 15.  
 (ii) Famine Programme (1939), para 11, p. 4.
99. (i) ut infra, Chap. VII, p. 148 and Chap. IX.  
 (ii) Vashishtha, V.K., Social Policy of the British in Rajasthan in Rajhisco Vol. VIII (1875), pp. 95-96.  
 (iii) Yadav, Santosh, Changing pattern of Slavery in Rajasthan in Rajhisco Vol. X (1977), pp. 77-78.
100. (i) Famine Report (1891-92), Chap. II, p. 7; and Chap. IV, p. 11.  
 (ii) ARS (1899-1900), WRSR Report, para 14, p. 33.  
 (iii) MAR (1901-02), Chap. XII, p. 10.  
 (iv) MAR (1907-08), Sec. 26, p. 42.  
 (v) Erskine, op. cit., Vol. III A Chap. VIII, pp. 121-22.

## Introduction of Imperial Currency

During the Mughal period Imperial currency was in vogue in Marwar as in other parts of Rajasthan. A mint was established at Pali, for the first time, in Marwar, and the coins struck there and at other places were called *Bijaishahi* after its ruler.<sup>1</sup> They consisted of gold, silver and copper pieces.<sup>2</sup> Towards the end of the eighteenth century the *Iktisandas* were minted at Kuchaman.<sup>3</sup> On the advent of the British these local coins - *Bijaishahi* and *Iktisanda* - formed the principal currency of Marwar. Besides them, coins of other states were also current.<sup>4</sup>

Prior to 1893, the *Bijaishahi* rupee was all along at a premium and its value was always higher than that of the British rupee called *Kaldar*.<sup>5</sup> The *Iktisanda* was exchanged for 69/75 paisa (11/12 annas). That year, the government mints were closed to free coinage in anticipation of the introduction of gold standard and currency in

1. The other places were : Jodhpur, Sojat and Nagaur. First of all coins were issued in 1780, the twenty second regnal year of Shah Alam II. Hence also called Baisanda.
  - (i) RSAJ, Sanad Bahi 132, p. 369.
  - (ii) RSAJ, Audha Bahi 3, p. 301.
  - (iii) RSAJ, Haqiqat Bahis 33, p. 111 and 39, pp. 272 and 47 A.
  - (iv) Hardayal Singh, op. cit., paras 209-12, pp. 583-84.
  - (v) Reu, op. cit., Vol. I, p. 393.
2. Gold coins called Mohar, half a Mohar and quarter a Mohar were minted only at Jodhpur and for the first time in 1781. The full Mohar weighed 169.9 grains troy. These coins were rarely met with beyond the Marwar border. The silver coins were rupee, half a rupee and quarter a rupee. The weight of the rupee was 176.4 grains of which 169.9 grains was troy silver. The copper piece was called Dhabu-hahi and its weight was 310 to 320 grains.
  - (i) Webb, Currencies of the Hindu States of Rajputana, pp. 44-48.
  - (ii) Reu, op. cit., Vol. II, p. 643.
3. After the close of the Imperial mint, the Darabs (minters) on their way to Delhi with the dies were induced to settle at Kuchaman by its thakur. With the permission of Maharaja Man Singh he struck silver coins of the Ajmer type. Having thirty first regnal year imprinted on them, they were called Iktisanda. They were also known as Kuchamania, Bopushahi and Borsi.
  - (i) RSAJ, Sanad Bahi 59, p. 168.
  - (ii) Webb, op. cit., pp. 49-50.
  - (iii) Hardayal Singh, op. cit., para 217, pp. 287-88.
  - (iv) Reu, op. cit., Vol. II, p. 647.
4. Akhaishahi of Jaisalmer in the western parganas of Marwar; Jharshahi of Jaipur in the north-eastern districts; Chandori of Udaipur and Bhilari in the hilly tracts bordering Sirohi and Mewar
  - (i) RSAJ, Haqiqat Bahis 33, p. 111 and 39, p. 272.
  - (ii) RSAJ, Audha Bahi 3, p. 301.
  - (iii) Hardayal Singh, op. cit., para 220, p. 590.
  - (iv) Erskine, op. cit., Chap. XII, p. 142.
5.
  - (i) Hardayal Singh, op. cit., p. 602.
  - (ii) Pr. 124 (Musahib Ala to the RWRS 1595 G. d. Nov. 27, 1899) in For. Int. A May 1900 No. 131-36.
  - (iii) Sukhdeo Prasad, Marwar Currency Conversion Report, p. 1.

India, and with a view to curtailing the redundancy of silver coins.<sup>6</sup> In consequence, the local rupee was gradually on the decline and it exhibited a tendency to depreciation. The rate of exchange became unsteady and considerably affected trade. At such an unfavourable time broke out a series of dreadful famines culminating in the terrible *chhappana* of 1899. It was the direst famine, the state had ever known. During this scarcity even the barest necessities of life were imported from outside. Thus arose a great demand for the *Kaldar* to pay for the increased imports, and in result, the rate of exchange began to exhibit such an abnormal tendency to rise that at one time in 1899 Rs. 122.76 *Bijaishahi* could be exchanged for only Rs. 100 *Kaldar*.<sup>7</sup> This brought the currency question to the forefront. After thoughtful consideration the *Darbar* decided to introduce Imperial currency in place of the state coins and make it the only legal tender in Marwar. But it was not without difficulty.

In those days *sikka* was considered 'Izzat and Abru'. It was the ostensible and much coveted emblem of internal sovereignty. Its entire disappearance would have been keenly felt on sentimental grounds. Rajasthan in those days was the stronghold of conservatism and in it no state of leading position had yet come forward with a scheme of currency reform. These considerations induced the *Darbar* to retain the power to coin gold. Gold coins called *Mohars*, half *Mohars* and quarter *Mohars* were used only for ceremonial purposes, and as coat buttons. They fetched in the market only their button value. The British Government took no objection to it and the reform of silver coinage was taken up.<sup>8</sup>

Approximately 3,30,51,778 *Bijaishahi* and 5,00,000 *Iktisanda* rupees had been struck since 1,839.<sup>9</sup> Of these coins about 150,00,000

6.	(i) Romesh Dutt, The Economic History of India, Vol. II, p. 439.	
	(ii) Pr. 124 (No. 1595 G. d. Nov. 11, 1899), loc. cit.	
7.	(i) Pr. 124 (Musahib Ala to RWRS No. 1595 G. d. Nov. 27, 1899), loc. cit.	
	(ii) Sukhdeo Prasad, Marwar Currency Conversion Report, loc. cit.	
8.	(i) Pr. 126 (Under Secy. For. to AGG No. 748-I A d. Feb. 10, 1900), loc. cit.	
	(ii) Pr. 129 (Secy. For. to AGG No. 1395 IA d. March 23, 1900), loc. cit.	
9.	Mint	Name of coin
	Pall	Bijaishahi
	Sojat	Bijaishahi
	Jodhpur	Bijaishahi
	Nagaur	Bijaishahi
		Number of coins struck
		2,14,98,956
		51,54,237.75
		58,97,163.5
		5,01,421
		3,30,51,778.25
	Kuchaman	Iktisanda
		35,15,928
	Total	3,65,67,706.25

Sukhdeo Prasad, Marwar Currency Reform Report, loc. cit.



were in circulation and not a small number lay hidden and hoarded. A large portion of the latter would appear in the market as soon as the conversion scheme was known and as a result of the conditions of exceptional distress and abnormal rise of prices. Thus, it was estimated that about 2,00,00,000 rupees in all would be presented for being exchanged<sup>10</sup> The balance in the state treasury was only Rs.6,50,000. It was insufficient for carrying out the conversion scheme. An advance of Rs. 15,00,000 was, therefore, sought for recoinage purposes from the British Government.<sup>11</sup>

The most important point of consideration and decision was with regard to the rate of exchange. In view of the weight and composition of the coins together with their number to be called in, the area of their circulation and the rate of exchange, that had prevailed in the market month by month since 1893, the rate of exchange was fixed up at 10% for *Bijaishahi* in consultation with the *Darbar* representative. In other words, for one hundred and ten genuine *Bijaishahi* rupees the Government would give one hundred *Kaldar* rupees. The rate was substantially lower than the prevailing market rate. As regards the *Iktisandas* it was laid down that the rate would be determined by the ratio of pure silver contained in them to that in the *Bijaishahi* rupees, i.e., the Imperial Government would give one hundred *Kaldar* rupees for that number of *Iktisandas*, which contained the same amount of pure silver as in one hundred and ten *Bijaishahis*. The rate of exchange thus finally arrived at for the three rupees on the above basis was in the proportion of 10:11:15.<sup>12</sup>

For calling in local coins four exchange treasuries were established at Jodhpur, Balotra ( afterwards transferred to Nagaur ), Pali and Nawa. All these places were principal centres of trade.<sup>13</sup> When these steps had been taken on the advice of the Imperial Government, the *Darbar* issued a circular on May 1, 1900<sup>14</sup>:

- (i) Inviting the public to exchange their local rupees for *Kaldar* ones at the exchange treasuries in the course of succeeding six months.

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10. Pr. 124 (Musahib Ala to RWRS No. 1595 G d. Nov. 27, 1899), loc. cit.  
 11. Pr. 128 (RWRS to AGG No. 334-C d March 3, 1900) and enclosure to it (Musahib Ala to RWRS No. 295 G. d March 3, 1900), loc. cit.  
 12. (i) Keepwith 1 to For. May, 1900 No. 124-36.  
 (ii) Pr. 129 (Secy. For. to AGG No. 1395 IA d. March 23, 1900), loc. cit.  
 (iii) Sukhdeo Prasad, Marwar Currency Reform Report, p. 6.  
 (iv) MAR (1900-1901), Chap. XII, p. 10.  
 13. Sukhdeo Prasad, Marwar Currency Reform Report, p. 7.  
 14. (i) RSAJ, Haqiqat Bahi 38, p. 109.  
 (ii) Sukhdeo Prasad, Marwar Currency Reform Report, pp. 7-8.

- (ii) Warning them that after November 1, 1900 Imperial currency would be the sole legal tender in Marwar and no local rupees would be accepted in payment of state dues.
- (iii) Advising them that every person having a claim to receive *Bijashahi* and *Iktisanda* prior to the issue of these rules would have the legal right to receive it in *Kaldar* rupees at the specified rate and all payments and private transactions would be made in *Kaldar* currency thereafter.

Thus began the currency conversion. During the first fortnight the rush was so great that the sum at the *Darbar's* disposal fell short of the demand. The city bankers taking advantage of this shortage enhanced the rate of exchange by charging *Hundawan* commission of 2%. In order to disband the profiteers' clique, ease the situation, and enhance the purchasing power of the *Raj*, the *Darbar* devised and set at work three schemes. At the Jodhpur-Bikaner Railway stations, where the freight and fare were realised only in *Kaldar* coins, local coins at the announced rate were freely accepted. The *Darbar* issued cheques on Calcutta and Bombay at reduced rates of *Hundawan*. On receiving coins Promissory notes were issued to pay the amount in *Kaldar* in the next batch of recoined rupees <sup>15</sup>

The Jodhpur mint like other princely state mints was of a primitive type. The manufacturing process was so simple that spurious and counterfeit<sup>16</sup> coins could easily find their way with the genuine coins. To provide against this, *sarafs*, who could tell by the touch and sound the spurious or genuine character of the coin, were employed at the collecting centres. A total number of 10,227,134 coins (9,273,628 *Bijaishahi* and 953,506 *Iktisanda*) were tendered for conversion. Only five coins were rejected as faulty.<sup>17</sup>

At this time the Jodhpur state was advised to retain its copper currency and stabilise its value by fixing a rate for it in terms

15. Sukhdeo Prasad, Marwar Currency Reform Report, p. 7-8.

16. The counterfeit coins were divided into four classes :

- (a) *Gairi* which was baser in quality and of illicit manufacture.
- (b) *Naipai* which in fineness was similar to *Bijaishahi* but was of illicit manufacture.
- (c) *Khota* The upper covering of which was made of thin silver and lead or copper was poured therein through a hole.
- (d) *Karda* which was struck in the mint, but was not of the standard fineness.

(i) Sukhdeo Prasad, Marwar Currency Conversion Reform, pp. 16-17.

(ii) MAR (1900-1901), Chap. XII, 10.

17. Ibid.

of rupee.<sup>18</sup> But no reform of copper coinage was carried out. In 1905, the state intended to replace them by the introduction of new ones which would resemble British token coins in shape, size and weight and would at the same time bear the figure of the Jodhpur *Maharaja*.<sup>19</sup> The circulation of such coins would have caused difficulties in adjoining territories. Besides, no *Rajput* chief had ever struck coins bearing the head of its chief.<sup>20</sup> Thereupon three alternative proposals were considered :

- (i) To replace the old coinage by British Indian coins.
- (ii) To mint coins slightly larger in size and heavier in weight than the British Indian token coins with figures of the two prominent deities of *Hindu* mythology.
- (iii) To introduce coins of old design but of lighter weight so that sixty four of them would make a rupee.

The state was not willing to adopt the British Indian coins. The second alternative would necessitate the importation of a die and a machine from Britain. It looked cumbrous. The third scheme had the merit both of economy and simplicity.<sup>21</sup> It was, therefore, adopted with the approval of the Imperial Government.<sup>22</sup> Copper coins of a reduced weight of 158 grains bearing the old design were called in and replaced by the new ones of lighter weight.

The introduction of Imperial currency thus facilitated transactions, set in the process for the elimination of barter and minimised chances of fraudulent practices in petty dealings. Above all, it promoted trade and brought Marwar in closer economic unity with British India. No steps were, however, taken to replace varying weights and measures by the introduction of uniform units.

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18. Four different kinds of copper coins were current in Marwar :

(i) Dhabooshahi (ii) Manshahi (iii) Laparia (iv) Chandshahi  
Of them Dhabooshahi was the chief copper coin in use. It was 316 grains in weight. Its value fluctuated from 52 to 56 pieces a rupee. Laparia and Chandshahi were chiefly current in Nagaur and Merta. 64 to 66 Laparia and 52 to 56 Chandshahi pieces made a rupee.

(i) Webb, op. cit., p. 48.

(ii) Pr. 126 (Under Secy For to AGG No. 748-IA d. Feb. 10), loc. cit.

(iii) Reu, op. cit., Vol. II, p. 642.

19. For. Int. B June 1905 No. 319 and keepwiths to it.

20. Keepwiths to For. Int. B. June 1905 No. 319, loc. cit.

21. Sukhdeo Prasad, Marwar Currency Reform Report, loc. cit.

22. (i) For. Int. B June 1905 No. 319.

(ii) MAR (1907-08), Chap. IV, para 24, p. 39.

(iii) RSAJ, Haqikat Bahi 39, p. 272.

(iv) Reu, op. cit., Vol. II, p. 643.

## Chapter VII

### WORKS OF PUBLIC UTILITY AND HEALTH

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The extensive sandy tracts of Marwar or Marusthal, which literally means the Land of Death, were liable to frequent famines and scarcity. They were situated outside the regular course of both north-east and south-east monsoon. The state depended entirely upon rains for good crop. If it failed in the beginning, or at the end or was late or scanty, there was a breakdown. Besides, the adverse position of the sandy tracts with regard to the monsoon current, adverse weather conditions, visitations of locusts, wholesale destruction of seeds and seedlings by wild and domestic animals, political dislocation caused by internecine quarrels and foreign attacks as well caused widespread damage and destruction.<sup>1</sup> The agriculturist in Marwar in the nineteenth century was also a victim of excessive demand, seizure of grass and grain, arbitrary reduction in prices and to high rates of interest. After paying all this in cash and kind, he had little left to face dire calamities. The outbreak of a famine was, therefore, as depressing as the imminence of widowhood.

According to the intensity of breakdown famines in Marwar were distinguished in four divisions :

- (i) *Annkāl* (grain famine).
- (ii) *Jalkāl* (scarcity of water).
- (iii) *Tinkāl* (fodder famine).
- (iv) *Trikāl* (famine when grain, water and fodder all the three were scarce).

The *Trikāl* was further classified into (i) *Bhairāl* and (ii) *Gaumar*. Hard times caused by dearness of grain were called *Kurrakāl*.<sup>2</sup>

Naked accounts of the grievous famines of Marwar during the seventeenth and the eighteenth centuries have been left by *Jain* chroniclers and *Maratha* observers. People were advised to keep brass and copper utensils for being disposed off in time of drought and

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1. (i) MFR (1891-92), Chap. I, pp. 1-2.  
(ii) Adams, A., *The Western Rajputana States* (1899), p. 142.  
(iii) Erskine, op. cit., Vol. III A, p. 125.
  2. (i) MFR (1891-92), Chap. I, pp. 6-7.  
(ii) MFR (1899-1900), Chap. 11, p. 53.  
(iii) Erskine, op. cit., Vol. III A, p. 125.  
(iv) Gehlot, *Rajasthani Krishi Kahavate*, p. (ii).

famine. No official account of famines which had occurred prior to 1868 have yet been noticed. It is said that Marwar was visited by atleast nineteen famines from 1792 to 1925.<sup>3</sup> Of the earlier ones the one, which broke out in 1812-13, was most calamitous. There was a complete failure of crop and acute scarcity of water. Starvation was followed by pestilence and mortality among human beings was most appalling. They died like flies. Fortunately, there being a fair reserve of grass, herds could be saved.<sup>4</sup> No policy had yet been evolved to combat this grand natural disease.

There was a terrible failure both of grain and forage in 1868-69. Fodder was so scarce that while wheat was sold at 7 kg a rupee, the price of grass was 6.5 kg a rupee. This simultaneous failure of food and fodder forced an enormous exodus of men and women with their flocks and herds to Gujarat and Malwa. But these territories were themselves in distress. The emigrants, therefore, wandered aimlessly and died in thousands.<sup>5</sup>

The A.G.G., Col. Keatinge, summoned a conference of delegates from all the states of Rajasthan at Ajmer on December 16, 1868 for providing relief to the afflicted. He appealed to them to remove all the restrictions on the transit of grain. The Marwar *Darbar* abolished the import duty on grain in transit and the *thakurs* of

### 3. Famines and their nature

Year	Nature
1792	Ann-kal (grain famine)
1804	Ann-kal (grain famine)
1812-13	Tri-kal (treble famine)
1833-34	Tin-kal (fodder famine)
1837-38	Ann-kal (grain famine)
1848-49	Tri-kal (treble famine)
1853-54	Ann-kal (grain famine)
1868-69	Tri-kal (treble famine)
1877-78	Tri-kal (treble famine)
1891-92	Tri-kal (treble famine)
1895-97	Ann-kal (grain famine)
1899-1900	Tri-kal (treble famine)
1905-06	Ann and Tin-kal (famine of grain and fodder)
1915-16	Ann and Tin-kal (famine of grain and fodder)
1925-26	Tin-kal (famine of fodder)

The years 1918-19 and 1921-22 were called years of Kurra on account of dearth of grain.

- (i) MFRR (1899-1900), Chap. II, p. 53.
  - (ii) Erskine, op. cit., Vol. III A, Chap. IX, p. 125.
  - (iii) Gehlot, op. cit., p. 364.
  - (iv) Jodhpur Famine Programme (1939), p. 37 (Appendix I).
  - (v) Niranjana Swaroop, Settlement Operations of the Khalsa Villages, p. 11.
4. (i) MFRR (1899-1900), Chap. II, p. 46.
  - (ii) Adams, op. cit., p. 143.
  - (iii) Erskine, op. cit., Chap. IX, p. 125.
  5. (i) ARS (1868-69), Marwar Agency Report, paras 2-7.
  - (ii) Adams, op. cit., p. 144.
  - (iii) Erskine, op. cit., Vol. III A, Chap. IX, p. 125.

Malani also consented to the abolition of their cesses on grain. Food was then imported from Sindh.<sup>6</sup> The following relief measures were suggested by the paramount power for adoption :<sup>7</sup>

- (i) Construction of roads and tanks for giving employment to the indigent and starving population.
- (ii) Repression of grain robberies.
- (iii) Prohibition of the sale of children.
- (iv) Remission of the state demand.
- (v) Provision in cash or cooked food for indigent women and children.
- (vi) Prevention of aimless emigration.

Marwar *Darbar* could at first do little to carry out this programme. The relations between the *Maharaja* and his nobles were strained. Most of the people had left Marwar, and its villages lay deserted. The resources of the state were thus entirely depleted.

When people began returning in March, 1869, the *Raj* assisted the poor houses at Ajmer, Neemuch, Palanpur and Erinpura. A famine relief fund was opened at Jodhpur.<sup>8</sup> To it the *Marwar thakurs* subscribed and work was commenced on the roads in the neighbourhood of the city. Another contribution was raised to provide food to the poor. The *Maharaja's* family subscribed generously to it. The *Jarechiji Maharani* distributed every day six quintals of cooked food. Respectable families, ashamed of begging, were given food after sun-set. This charity alone cost her Rs. 30,000. Assistance was also rendered by the Government of Bombay, Bombay Chamber of Commerce and the United Presbyterian Church. Their liberal gifts saved many lives and enabled the people to tide over the dreadful time.<sup>9</sup>

Most of the survivors returned in May, 1869 in the hope of early rains, but they were disappointed. They found in Marwar nothing except an arid and burnt up plain without a blade of grass for their cattle and without water in the wells. Down-hearted

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6. (i) For. Gen. A March 1871 No. 34-36.  
 (ii) ARS (1868-69), Marwar Agency Report, p. 146.  
 (iii) MFRR (1899-1900), Chap. II, p. 47.  
 (iv) Adams, op. cit., pp. 144-45.  
 7. For. Gen. A March 1871 No. 34-36.  
 8. (i) For. Gen. A March 1871 No. 34-36.  
 (ii) ARS (1869-70), Marwar Agency Report, para 4.  
 (iii) Adams, op. cit., p. 145.  
 (iv) MFRR (1899-1900), Chap II, p. 47.  
 (v) Reu, op. cit., Vol II, p. 457.  
 9. For. Gen. A March 1871 No. 34-36.

they rushed back from the doomed land. Cholera broke out and many fell an easy victim to it. Those, who remained at home in villages, were in a worse plight. They perished from starvation. Marwar thus lost one third of its population and 85% of its cattle. As a consequence, when agricultural operations were undertaken the following year, small ploughs were made and men in place of oxen yoked themselves and women dropped the seed. Wheat was sold at 17 kg a rupee in July, 1868 but it was sold at 4.5 kg only in July next.<sup>10</sup>

The next terrible famine broke out in 1877-78, when it rained only 11.4 cm. That year, the *kharif* yielded only one-fourth and the *rabi* one-fifth of the usual produce. Grass was also unusually scarce. The difficulties thus aggravated induced some eighty thousand persons to emigrate towards Gujarat and Malwa with two hundred thousand cattle. Two dependable state officials were sent with money to provide the afflicted with food. But the long journey, both ways, told upon the health of the emigrants and many of them died on the way. It was estimated that twenty thousand human beings and eighty thousand heads of cattle had been lost, and this bad season cost the state about ten lacs of rupees.<sup>11</sup>

The grain crops all over Marwar in 1875-76 had been magnificent. The people, having got wiser by the terrible experience of 1868-69, had hoarded Bajra. As such, there was sufficient food for their requirements during the scarcity. But a few traders and officials combined together for profiteering. Trouble ensued for a few days in the city of Jodhpur. The *Maharaja* in consultation with his *sardars* and such *musahibs* as had not joined this clique advanced eighty thousand rupees from his personal purse for purchase of grain. The traders were abused and threatened both by the *sardars* and the people. As a consequence, prices came down considerably.<sup>12</sup> The A.G.G., A.C. Lyall, commended this action of the Marwar *Darbar* but the Governor-General held a different view.<sup>13</sup>

During this scarcity the state undertook the sinking of wells and construction of water embankments and a fair weather road bet-

10. (i) ARS (1869-70), Marwar Agency Report, paras 2-14.  
 (ii) Adams, op. cit., p. 145.  
 (iii) MFRR (1899-1900), Chap. II, pp. 47-48.  
 (iv) Erskine, op. cit., Vol. III A, p. 147.
11. (i) ARS (1877-78), Marwar Agency Report, paras 1-2.  
 (ii) Adams, op. cit., pp. 147-48.  
 (iii) Marwar Famine Relief Report (1899-1900), Chap. II, p. 48.
12. (i) ARS (1876-77), Marwar Agency Report, paras 1-3.  
 (ii) Pr. 81 (PA to AGG No. 92-70 G. d. Sept. 18 in For. Gen. A October, 1877 No. 80-82.  
 (iii) Reu, op. cit., Vol. II, p. 469.
13. Pr. 82 (Secy. For. to AGG No. 2761 G. d. Oct. 2, 1877), loc. cit.

ween Jodhpur and Pali, a distance of 70 kms. Charity houses supported both by the *Darbar* and the philanthropists were started at Jodhpur, Pali, Nagaur and other large towns for giving food to the physically handicapped.<sup>14</sup>

During the year 1877-78 a large part of India covering an area of more than 6, 47,500 sq. kms was affected with drought and famine. The Government of India, therefore, appointed a famine commission in 1878. On its recommendation a provisional abstract famine code was introduced for the guidance of princely states.<sup>15</sup>

The provisions of this code were applied to Marwar during the dire famine of 1891-92. The rainfall was not scanty but it was confined to initial months, and that too unevenly distributed.<sup>16</sup> It worsened the situation which had already become grim owing to partial failures of crops for three consecutive years. Shortage of food and fodder might have led to grave consequences. But huge quantities of grain and grass were imported by rail and sent to out-districts on camels. A terrifying crisis was thus averted.<sup>17</sup>

When the traders tried to form a profiteering league and hoard grain, the *Darbar* in spite of its depleted resources began purchasing food grains from distant markets. This frustrated the efforts of the league and traders had to vie with one another in importing grain.<sup>18</sup> The consumption needs of the people were thus met, but the cultivators were still without resources. Relief could not be provided to those who were without means of livelihood. No programme of relief operations had been planned in advance. Steps were taken to provide work and wages to the able-bodied and support the feeble. The construction of the Jodhpur-Bikaner Railway and Jaswantsagar (Pichiak dam) gave employment to men and women. They were also engaged in building tanks both for irrigation and supply of drinking water and for clearing railway lines of drifted sand.<sup>19</sup> Wages were paid at the following rates :

(i) Men @ 9 paisa/1.5 annas each a day.

(ii) Women and minors @ 7.5 paisa/1.25 annas each a day.

14. Pr. 81 (PA.to AGG No. 92-70 G. d. Sept. 18, 1877), loc. cit.

15. (i) For. B Gen 1 Jan. 1883 No. 93 (Appendix to the Famine Commission Report).

(ii) Enclosure to For. B. Gen. 1 July 1883 No. 170-71.

16. (i) MFR (1891-92), Chap. II, pp. 4-5.

(ii) ARS (1891-92), WRSR Report, para 2.

17. (i) MFR (1891-92), Chap. I, p. 7; Chap. IV, p. 11 and Statement D, p. 52.

(ii) Adams, op. cit., p. 149.

18. MAR (1891-92), Chap. IV, p. 11.

19. MFR (1891-92), Chap. VIII & IX, pp. 18-21; and Statement G, p. 53.



- (iii) Children below eight years of age @ 3 paisa/.5 anna each a day.<sup>20</sup>

Gratuitous relief to the infirm and medical aid to the sick was provided both at the capital and the district headquarters without stint.<sup>21</sup> *Hakims* were made responsible for relief works and poor houses. They sent progress reports, both weekly and monthly, to the Famine Officer-cum-Secretary.<sup>22</sup>

Land revenue demand of *khalsa* villages was remitted. Realisation of tribute, succession fee and other dues from *jagirdars* was also suspended.<sup>23</sup> Forests were thrown open for cattle in Sojat and Godwar *parganas*.<sup>24</sup> All this cost the state more than fourteen and a half lacs of rupees, of which six and a half was spent on relief, six on remission and two on advances and suspension of recoveries.<sup>25</sup> *Taccavi* loan was not given to the cultivators for purchase of seed and cattle.<sup>26</sup> Two lacs of persons and more than six and a half lacs of heads of cattle had left Marwar. Five-eighths of men and three-fifths of cattle were brought back.<sup>27</sup>

A succession of bad seasons, commencing from 1895, culminated in the terrible famine of 1899-1900, called the frightening '*Chhapanna*.' 1895 was a year of drought in Marwar. The plenitude of the *rabi* crop, however, saved the situation.<sup>28</sup> The rainfall was both scanty and untimely, and the crops yielded little. The state would have yet coped with the situation, but conditions of scarcity in the adjacent regions led to export of Marwar produce and created distress at home. Relief works were opened in all the *parganas*. No epidemic broke out at any of the relief centres.<sup>29</sup> The year 1897-98 was one of plenty but the monsoon of 1898 was again capricious. Consequently, most of the crops failed. There was little grass in Marwar. Cattle was driven away to Malwa and Sindh, and grain imported by rail from surplus regions.<sup>30</sup>

20. MFR (1891-92), Chap. IX, p. 23.

21. (i) MFR (1891-92), Chap. IX and Statement Q, p. 51.

(ii) MFR (1899-1900), Chap. II, p. 50.

22. MFR (1891-92), part II, p. 57.

23. MFR (1891-92), Chap. XIV, p. 35; and Statement M, G and P, pp. 44-46.

24. MFR (1891-92), Chap. XVI, p. 40.

25. MFR (1891-92), pp. 35, 40, 44-46 and 51.

26. MFR (1891-92), Chap. VII, p. 5.

27. (i) MFR (1891-92), Chap. V, p. 14 and Statement F, p. 56.

(ii) Adams, op. cit., p. 149.

28. (i) MAR (1895-96), p. B and Chap. IV, pp. 25-26.

(ii) MFRR (1899-1900), Chap. II, pp. 51-52.

29. (i) MAR (1896-97), p. (ii) and Chap. VII, pp. 42-46.

(ii) MAR (1897-98), Chap. VIII, p. 30.

(iii) MFRR (1899-1900), Chap. II, p. 52.

30. (i) MAR (1898-99), Chap. VIII, pp. 22-23.

(ii) MFRR (1899-1900), Chap. III, pp. 58-59.

The year following, there was a total failure of monsoon. Rainlessness led to complete loss of *kharif* crop. Grass and fodder plants withered away and there were no *rabi* sowings. Marwar was faced with a cruel calamity. People began moving out and trudging along the beaten tracks of migration. One hundred fifty thousand persons fled from Marwar to the fertile regions of Malwa Ratlam, Indore and Bhopal in Madhya Pradesh. These areas were themselves in the throes of drought and could provide no subsistence to the luckless wanderers. If Marwar was a frying pan, all these regions were blazing flames of fire.<sup>31</sup>

A hue and cry was raised against the *Marwari* emigrants in those territories. They were rallied back to relief works in Marwar. They lost their cattle and sold all their household possessions. The mortality among them was grievously heavy.<sup>32</sup>

To save the people from the pangs of hunger, relief measures were started on a scale never before attempted. The state finances, which had already been crippled through a succession of bad seasons, were at the lowest ebb. A loan of thirty five lacs of rupees was obtained from the paramount power.<sup>33</sup> Services of engineers and staff corps officers were also secured to cope with the difficult task that lay ahead. About thirty million units were provided work and wages at the relief centres from December, 1899 to September, 1900. It cost the state twenty nine lacs of rupees.<sup>34</sup> The land revenue demand amounting to ten lacs of rupees was remitted.<sup>35</sup> Forests were thrown open to unrestricted grazing by horned cattle, and people were allowed to collect grass and fodder, leaves and barks of certain trees, and saleable and edible roots and fruits free of cost.<sup>36</sup> Relief works were divided into two categories :

- (i) Large projects under the Public Works Department in charge of Walter Home, Manager, J.B. Railway.
- (ii) Petty works under civil agency in charge of district officers.<sup>37</sup>

31. (i) MFRR (1899-1900), Chap. IV, pp. 72-73.

(ii) MAR (1899-1900), Chap. VII, pp. 5-6.

32. MFRR (1899-1900), Chap. XVII, pp. 176-77 and statements B, C & D appended to it.

33. (i) MFRR (1899-1900), Chap. XVI, p. 163.

(ii) ARS (1899-1900), WRSA Report, para 4, p. 31.

34. (i) MFRR (1899-1900), Appendix V, Statements A to J, pp. I-XXIII.

(ii) Erskine, op. cit., Vol. III A, Chap. IX, p. 127.

35. MFRR (1899-1900), Chap. XVI, pp. 79c and 172c.

36. (i) MAR (1899-1900), Chap. IX, p. 7.

(ii) MAR (1900-1901), Chap. IX, p. 8.

(iii) Erskine, op. cit., Vol. III A, Chap. IX, p. 127.

37. MFRR (1899-1900), Chap. V, p. 89.

The large projects, which constituted the backbone of the whole system of relief, afforded employment to the able-bodied persons. They were divided in gangs and assigned specified tasks of earth work. The civil agency works were at first executed on contract, but as distress deepened, the system of allotments to individuals was resorted to. Eighty nine thousand men and women were on an average employed on relief works from December 1899 to July 1900, the highest number on the muster roll roughly being one lac and a quarter on March 10, 1900.<sup>38</sup>

Gratuitous relief was provided in free kitchens, poor houses, orphanages and a chain of collecting camps. Advances were made to the police and the *jagirdars* for supplying starving wanderers with food. Grain was doled out to *parda-nashin* women through dependable agents.<sup>39</sup> Cultivators were assisted with *taccavi* loans for purchase of seed and cattle. Bullocks and hand ploughs were distributed.<sup>40</sup>

Much was done by way of private charity too. Railways kept the prices of food grains steady. Mortality among human beings was still high because the famine was accompanied and followed by small-pox, cholera and a virulent outbreak of plague.<sup>41</sup> As a consequence of the shortage of fodder, which was for some time sold at grain rates, mortality among cattle was also very high.<sup>42</sup>

Crops harvested in the autumn of 1900 and in the succeeding spring were good, but the monsoon of 1901 was weak and it departed early. There was scarcity over 44 030 sq kms chiefly in the western half of the state. Locusts also caused much damage. Relief works gave employment to four lac and forty five thousand units, while two lac and forty two thousand units were fed in poor houses. Remissions and suspensions of state demands amounted to seven lacs and a quarter of rupees.<sup>43</sup> Grass storage was undertaken in 1903-04 to provide against bad seasons. A reserve fund of

38. (i) MFRR (1899-1900), Chap. VI, p. 93 and p. 97.

(ii) Erskine, op. cit., Vol. III A, Chap. IX, p. 127.

39. (i) MFRR (1899-1900), Chap. VII to X, pp. 109-24.

(ii) Erskine, op. cit., Vol. III A, Chap. IX, p. 127.

40. (i) MFRR (1899-1900), Chap. XII, pp. 131-34.

(ii) Erskine, op. cit., Vol. III A, Chap. IX, p. 128.

41. (i) MFRR (1899-1900), Chap. XIX, p. 196.

(ii) Erskine, op. cit., Vol. III A, Chap. IX, p. 128.

42. (i) MFRR (1899-1900), Chap. XI, pp. 125-27.

(ii) Erskine, op. cit., Vol. III, p. I; Chap. p. 127.

43. (i) MAR (1901-02), Chap. II, p. 3; Chap. IV, p. 5; Chap. VI, p. 6 and Chap. XIX, p. 23,

(ii) Erskine, op. cit., Vol. III A, Chap. IX, p. 128.

famine relief was also created.<sup>44</sup> However, distress was again caused in 1905-06 owing to the failure of monsoon. This time, altogether seventeen lac units were relieved either by being provided work and wages or gratuitously. The state was put to an approximate loss of seven lacs of rupees.<sup>45</sup>

A more terrible famine ensued in 1915-16. A large number of men left their homes and hearths for places where they could obtain pasture for the cattle and employment for themselves. Officers under the supervision of the Resident were sent to provide facilities to the emigrants. He was kept well informed at every stage. Grass and fodder depots were set up at convenient places en route.<sup>46</sup> Relief works were started all over the state as ordinary public works for those who stayed behind. These works were entrusted to contractors for being executed at normal rates by the famine-stricken so that they might be able to maintain themselves and their children and dependants. A total of seventeen lac units was relieved with a daily average of 6,167 persons. The relief works cost the *Raj* twelve lacs of rupees and a half. Four temporary dispensaries were opened for giving medical relief to the workers.<sup>47</sup>

The state also arranged with the paramount power for the transport of grass and fodder at one-fourth of the ordinary railway freight. The difference was paid by the *Darbar*. Gratuitous relief was provided by the establishment of poor houses and award of village doles in cash. After the break of monsoon in 1916, thousands of weak cattle were brought back by train at state expense. Arrangements were also made to feed them on the way. *Taccavi* and other advances were freely made to the cultivators. Altogether, the expenditure on account of famine relief amounted to twenty six lacs of rupees and a half during the year <sup>48</sup>

The unfortunate inhabitants of Marwar for generations accepted scarcity and famine as a normal mode of existence, and the greatest safeguard against it consisted in their migratory habits.

44. (i) MAR (1903-04), Chap. V, p. 4 and Chap. XIX, p. 22.

(ii) MAR (1907-08), Chap. V Sec. 29, p. 48 and Chap. VIII Sec. 35, p. 55.

45. (i) MAR (1905-06), Chap. II, p. 3 and Chap. IV, pp. 16-18.

(ii) MAR for the period ending Sept. 30, 1906, Chap. II, pp. 2-3 and Chap. IV, pp. 11-12.

(iii) Erskine, op. cit., Vol. III A, Chap. IX, p. 128.

46. MAR (1915-16), Chap. III Sec. 33, p. 34.

47. MAR (1915-16), Chap. III Sec. 32, pp. 34-35.

48. Ibid., pp. 35-36.

Agriculturists, cattle breeders and field labourers migrated with their families, cattle and household possessions. *Mahajans* also went out to fertile regions in search of livelihood. Till the advent of railways many did not return home and left Marwar for good.<sup>49</sup> Malnutrition, outbreak of epidemics and such other Malthusian factors also contributed to loss of life and population.

With the dawn of the twentieth century effective measures were adopted to project this vast tract of desert against the extreme effects of drought by extension of railways, building of roads, and construction of wells and tanks to remove the shortage of water supply. Among other steps that were taken to fight famine may be mentioned major irrigation works, conservation of forests, establishment of fodder reserves and reserve fund for famine relief. As a consequence, loss of human life was prevented in later famines. Recurrent famines entailed a heavy drain on the public exchequer and put a great strain on the organisational capacity of the administration.

### Irrigation Works

The development of railways has already been noticed in the previous chapter. They helped transportation of food and fodder to the affected parts of the state, but did not add to the produce of the land. It is irrigation which can do so and secure crops during drought. Jaswant Singh II recognised mitigation of the serious effects of drought as a duty. Irrigation henceforth formed a part of the programme of his administration.<sup>50</sup> In pursuance of this policy attempts were made to dam the river Luni with its tributaries.\* Jaswantsagar was built just below the confluence of the Raipur Luni with the Luni at Pichiak in Bilara *pargana*. This dam with a depth of 16.5 metre and circumference of 34 kms could irrigate 3,850 hectares (10,000 acres).<sup>51</sup> While the construction of Jaswantsagar was in progress, the Dipawas dam in Jaitaran, the Bagole dam in Bali, the Chopra dam in Sojat and the Sadri dam in Desuri *pargana*

49. Ado-balo ulangio, chhodi ghar ri aas. When the Aravalli hills are crossed, all hope of return home is lost.  
Famine Programme Report (1939), loc. cit., pp. 4, 8 and 20.

50. (i) Adams, op cit., p. 8.  
(ii) Erskine, op. cit., Vol. III A, Chap. XVI, p. 157.  
(iii) MFRR (1899-1900), Chap. 1, p. 37.  
(iv) Drake Brockman, op. cit., para 10, p. 7.

51. (i) MAR (1889-90), Chap. XI, p. 49.  
(ii) MFR (1891-92), Chap. IX, pp. 20-21.  
(iii) MFRR (1899-1900), Chap. I, p. 37.  
(iv) Drake Brockman, op. cit., para 10, p. 7.

\*Jogri, Raipur, Luni, Gubia, Bandi, Sukdi and Jawai.

were also built.<sup>52</sup> The *Darbar* had spent thirteen lacs of rupees on irrigation works till March, 1898.<sup>53</sup>

During the terrible famine of 1899-1900 the projects of Sardarsamand, Bankli, Kharda, Jograwas and Pali were undertaken.<sup>53</sup> The Sardarsamand in Sojat *pargana* was built across the Guhiabala and the Sukri at an approximate cost of eight lacs of rupees. It was completed in 1905.<sup>54</sup> The Bankli dam in *pargana* Jalore was built in 1906 and it cost four lacs of rupees. On an average it irrigated 802 hectares (1,981 acres) of land from 1908 to 1911. Subsequently, it got breached owing to faulty alignment. The repairs were not successful, and it lay derelict, doing little good beyond serving to improve some emergent land.<sup>55</sup> Meanwhile, the Jawai project was surveyed but it was proceeded with forty years later.<sup>56</sup> The major scheme, that was next executed, was the Hemawas reservoir with its channels 40 kms in length, and it cost the *Darbar* three lacs of rupees.<sup>57</sup> It was named Summersamand after the *Maharaja's* name.

As a result of the building of storage reservoirs 12,579 hectares (31,083 acres) of land was irrigated in 1909-10, 6,538 hectares (16,155 acres) in 1912-13, 8,737 hectares (21,588 acres) in 1919-20 and 742 hectares (1,834 acres) in 1922-23.<sup>58</sup> It shows that these reservoirs contained least water when it was most required, and they could not be as good a source of water supply as irrigation projects based on perennial rivers.

### Conservation of Forests

Even in a desert and famine-stricken land like Marwar the value of forests, as a preventive measure against the spread of desert and wind erosion and as a help in soil conservation and in providing vegetation cover, was never realised in former days. There were no regulations regarding forest control and management. In fact, much

52. MFRR (1899-1900), Chap. 1, p. 37.

53. (i) MAR (1896-97), Chap. XII, p. 59.

(ii) MFRR (1899-1900), Statement B appended to Chap. V.

(iii) MAR (1904-05), Chap. IV Sec. 22, p. 17.

54. (i) MAR for the period ending September 30, 1906, Chap. IV Sec. 22, p. 15.

(ii) Erskine, op. cit., Vol. III A, Chap. XVI, p. 157.

(iii) Drake Brockman, op. cit., para 10, p. 7.

55. (i) MAR (1904-05), Chap. IV Sec. 22, p. 17.

(ii) MAR (1945-46), Chap. IV Sec. 2, p. 158.

56. (i) MAR (1906-07), Chap. IV Sec. 22, p. 17.

(ii) MAR (1910-11), Chap. IV Sec. 33, p. 35.

57. (i) MAR (1907-08), Chap. II, p. 8.

(ii) MAR (1909-10), Chap. II Sec. 8, p. 6.

(iii) MAR (1912-13), Chap. II Sec. 6, p. 6.

(iv) MAR (1918-19 to 20-21), Chap. II, p. 15.

(v) MAR (1922-23), Chap. II, p. 13.

of the desert had resulted from long deforestation. The indiscriminate grazing by large animal stock, the unregulated cutting of trees and clearance of land for cultivation contributed to the devastation of forest land in Marwar. The practical utility of forests was realised for the first time when the *Aravali* forests supplied sleepers at about one third of the cost of imported sleepers for the construction of the Jodhpur Branch Railway between Pali and Jodhpur.<sup>1</sup> Services of a competent officer, who could undertake survey and supervision of the wooded tract, were sought in 1884 from the paramount power. Lowrie, Assistant Conservator of Forests, Ajmer-Merwara, undertook the survey and gave an exhaustive report on the vegetation of the Marwar forests, which could be divided into the following classes.<sup>59</sup>

- (i) Timber Trees : Babool (*Acacia nilotica* subsp. *indica* = *A. arabica*), Neem (*Azadirachta indica* = *Melia indica*), Dhau (*Anogeissus pendula*), Salar (*Boswellia serrata* = *B. thuiifera*), Gole (*Lannea coromandelica*), Robira (*Tecomella undulata* = *Tecoma undulata*), Bar (*Ficus benghalensis*) and Pipal (*Ficus religiosa*).
- (ii) Small trees and shrubs : Khejri (*Prosopis cineraria* = *P. spicigera*), Kumat (*Acacia senegal* = *A. rupestris*), Jal (*Salvadora persica*), Pilu (*Salvadora oleoides*), Khair (*Acacia catechu*), Ker (*Capparis decidua* = *C. aphylla*), Ber (*Zizyphus mauritiana* = *Z. jujuba*), Dhak (*Butea monosperma* = *B. frondosa*) and Gundi (*Cordia allamanda* = *C. rothii*).
- (iii) Shrubs and plants of special economic value : Ak (*Calotropis procera*), Khinp (*Leptadenia pyrotechnica* = *Orthanthera viminea*), Thor (*Euphorbia caducifolia* = *E. royalana*), Phog (*Calligonum polygonoides*), Khirni (*Mimosa indica* = *M. hexandra*), and Bamboo (*Dendrocalamus* spp.)
- (iv) Fruits : Khejri (*Prosopis cineraria* = *P. spicigera*), Timbru (*Diospyros cordifolia* = *D. tomentosa*), Gular (*Ficus glomerata*), Khajur (*Phoenix sylvestris*), etc.

58. Pr. 34 (RWRS to First Asst. to AGG No. 104 G d. May 23) in For. Int A Sept. 1885 No. 33-36.

59. (i) Encl. to Pr. 34 (Lowrie Report), loc. cit.

(ii) MAR (1885-86), Chap IV, p. 16.

(iii) MAR 1886-87), Chap VII, p. 26.

(iv) Adams, op. cit., 397-417.

(v) Bhandari, M. M. Flora of Indian Desert (1978). The Botanical names of the plants have been brought up to date on this authority.

- (v) Seeds : Babool (*Acacia nilotica* = *A. arabica*), Kumat (*Acacia senegal* = *A. rupestris*), Khar (*Haloxylon recurvum*) and Jinja (*Mimosa hamata*), etc.
- (vi) Barks : Khejri (*Prosopis cineraria*=*P. spicigera*) and Khar (*Haloxylon recurvum*).
- (vii) Gums : Babool (*Acacia nilotica* subsp. *indica* = *A. arabica*), Kumat (*Acacia senegal* = *A. rupestris*), Dhau (*Anogeissus pendula*), Khair (*Acacia catechu*).
- (viii) Leaves and Grasses : Bekario (*Indigofera cordifolia*), Panwaria (*Cassia tora*), Baru (*Sorghum halepense*), Karar (*Iseilema laxum*), Dhaman (*Cenchrus ciliaris*=*Pennisetum cenchroides*), Junglisurwala (*Heteropogon contortus*), Doob (*Cynodon dactylon*) and Khas (*Vetiveria zizanioides*).
- (ix) Minerals : Ghiya Bhata (Soap stone), Multanimati (Mete = Fuller's earth), etc.

Marwar timber in those days was small sized useful only for agricultural and household purposes. Their chief utility lay in possessing a large capacity for producing fodder which could during hard times stand in good stead and also yield revenue to the state. The most important native tree was the *Babul*, the leaves and pods of which were used as fodder in the hot weather while the bark was valuable for tanning and dying. Its gum was exported. *Ber* provided nutritive food for animals and fruit for human beings. Its branches were used for fencing the fields. *Khejri* had also proved beneficial in many ways. Its leaves and shoots provided the people with vegetables, besides being eaten by camels, goats and cattle. Its pods were used as fruit and its wood, was utilised for building roofs, carts and agricultural implements and as fuel. The fruit of *ker* was eaten<sup>60</sup> Thus the forests played their own part in the amelioration of the condition of the people both in times of plenty and in times of scarcity and famine by providing numerous bye-products for the sustenance and upkeep of men and animals.

Lowrie's lucid study underlined the potentialities of Marwar forests and aroused considerable interest among economists and policy makers for their conservation and development. Thus the Department of Forest came into being in 1888 and services of Daulat Ram of the Punjab Forest Service were procured. The state placed under conservation a belt of the Aravalli range about 768 sq. kms

60. (i) Adams, op. cit., pp. 409, 419 and 420.

(ii) MFRR (1899-1900), Chap. 1, pp. 40-41.

(iii) MAR (1907-08), Chap. IV Sec. 20, p. 33.



extending from Nana in the south to Dipawas in the north, the forests of Ajmer-Merwara and Udaipur marching along with it.<sup>61</sup> But difficulties were ahead. With the exception of the forests of Desuri, Sadri and Bagole villages, the entire forest area belonged to influential *jagirdars*. They were prevailed upon to transfer their rights to the *Darbar* and accept land of equal rental value in exchange. Thus, though the department was set up in 1888, the work of conservation could begin in 1890.<sup>62</sup>

The newly reserved forests were, in 1891, visited by Fernandes, Director of Forest School, Dehradun. On his recommendation scientific forest management was extended to the interior plains of the state. An area of about 80 sq kms was reserved on the *Chhap-pana-ka-Pahar* in *Siwana and Parbatsar* districts<sup>63</sup>. In the meanwhile, the jurisdiction of the Forest Department was extended to fuel and fodder reserves situated in *khalsa villages*. A tax was imposed on wood cutting and rules for grazing were framed. A trial farm was opened at Sadri and gardens were laid out.<sup>64</sup>

A further area of about 64 sq. kms was brought under forest conservation in the Jalore and Jaswantpura *parganas*.<sup>65</sup> In 1923, Marwar occupied nearly 1186 sq. kms (463.06 sq. miles) of forests situated for the most part in the western slopes of the Aravalli hills in the districts of Bali, Desuri, Jalore, Jaswantpura, Jaitaran, Parbatsar, Siwana and Sojat.<sup>66</sup>

All the forests were demarcated by means of *pacca* pillars. Forest lands were surveyed and mapped. They were protected against fire and unauthorised felling of trees and grazing by a judiciously arranged system of main and intermediate fire lines, patrols

61. MAR (1907-08), Chap. IV Sec 20, p. 33.

62. (i) MAR (1889-90), Chap. VII, para 45, p. 23.

(ii) MAR (1890-91), Chap. VII, p. 23.

(iii) Marwar Forest Administration Report (1890-91), pp 1 and 3.

(iv) MAR (1893-94), Chap. VIII, p. 31.

(v) Shyam Behari Misra, *op. cit.*, p. 15

63. (i) MAR (1897-98), Chap. X, p. 40

(ii) Marwar Forest Administration Report (1893-99), Chap. I, para 4, p. 1.

(iii) MAR (1898-99), Chap. X, p. 27

(iv) Shyam Bhari Misra, *op. cit.*, p. 15.

64. MAR (1888-89), Chap. VII, para 39, p. 19.

65. (i) Marwar Forest Administration Report (1911-12), Review p. 1, and Chap I, p. 1.

(ii) Marwar Forest Administration Report (1912-13), Review p. (i), and pp. 1-4.

(iii) MAR (1912-13), Chap IV Sec. 13, p. 29.

(iv) Shyam Behari Misra, *op. cit.*, p. 37.

66. (i) Marwar Forest Administration Report (1922-23), para 5, p. 1.

(ii) MAR (1922-23), Chap. IV, p. 37.

and working by rotation.<sup>67</sup> The stock was improved and added by sowing and plantation of better species of trees and plants. Valuable exotic and fruit trees such as *Mango (Mangifera indica)*, *Mahua (Bassia latifolia)*, *Jamun (Engenia jambolana)*, *Shahtut (Morus alba)*, *Sitaphal (Annona squamosa)*, and *Gular (Ficus glomerata)* were introduced.<sup>68</sup> Cart roads, paths for pack animals and inspection paths were built in the forests to facilitate supervision of work, and the transportation of marketable produce. Attempts were made to discover articles that could provide raw-materials for development of industries. Marwar forests also had a number of medicinal and drug plants and yielded other economic products such as honey, wax, myrabolans muslis, lac, fibres, tree-cotton, oil-seeds, and fruits. They were exploited on a larger scale and by better methods. 'Ak' and 'Khinp', two rank shrubs of Marwar, hitherto believed to be of no commercial value, were found to possess fibre for textiles, ropes and rough cordages.<sup>69</sup> They provided revenue to the *Darbar* and employment for weaker sections of society. The financial results of forest conservation also proved laudable.

### Modern System of Medicine

The period under study was marked by the beginning of a programme of *sanitas sanitatum omnia sanitas* and included the introduction of (i) Modern system of Medicine (ii) Vaccination (iii) Public health and civic life (iv) Reform of prison life.

The indigenous system of medicine was practised by hereditary *Vaidyas* (Ayurvedic physicians), *Sadhs*, *Jain Jatis* and other ascetics. Among them professional skill and knowledge of standard works was transmitted from generation to generation.<sup>70</sup> The works that were most consulted were (i) *Charak Samhita* (ii) *Sushrut Samhita* (iii) *Bhav Prakash* of Bhav Mishra (iv) *Dhanwantri Nighantu* (v) *Amrit Sagar* (Comps) (vi) *Vaidya Vinod* of Shanker Bhatt (vii) *Yogachintamani* of Harshakirti (viii) *Vaidyajiwan* of Lomimbraj (ix) *Sarangadhar Samhita* and (x) *Madhav Nidan* of Madhav.<sup>71</sup>

The *vaidyas* diagnosed diseases on the basis of *Nadi Pariksa* and bodily symptoms and prescribed *Churans* (powders), *Vatis* (pills),

67. (i) MAR (1907-08), Chap. IV, Sec. 20, p. 33

(ii) Shyam Behari Misra, op. cit., pp. 16-17.

68. (i) Marwar Forest Administration Report (1911-12), Chap. V, p. 15

(ii) Marwar Forest Administration Report (1912-13), Chap. V, p. 13.

(iii) Shyam Behari Misra, op. cit., p. 17.

69. Ibid., pp. 17-18.

70. (i) Hendley, General Medical History of Rajputana (1900), pp. 39-40.

(ii) Adams, op. cit., p. 254.

71. (i) Hendley, op. cit., p. 41.

(ii) Oral evidence of late Guran Udaichand aged 93 and Rajvaidya Chandmal aged 75 in 1969.

*Arishthas* and *Asavas* (alcoholic liquids), *Rasas* (Mercury preparations *Ukalies* or *Kvaths* (decoctions), *Niryas* (exudations), and *Bhasmas* (metal powders), all manufactured by themselves.<sup>72</sup>

Some of the practitioners had great reputation and they were paid salaries, subsidised or/and given land grants by the *Darbar*.<sup>73</sup> But most of them were ill-educated. They knew little of anatomy and modern pathology. Besides, they were too secretive of their prescriptions to disclose their ingredients even to their own sons and pupils. Many potent medicines were thus lost to posterity.<sup>74</sup> *Hakeems*, who had come from Delhi, practised the *Unani* system of medicine and were popular.<sup>75</sup>

Surgery was undertaken by *Jarrahs* and barbers, who opened abscesses, extracted teeth, applied actual cautery, set fractures and bandaged limbs. Amputations were performed by *Rajput* swordmen, who cut through a limb with a single stroke. The stump of the amputated limb was put into boiling oil for stopping the haemorrhage. The *Sojat Sathias* practised couching for cataract. They were once reputed all over Rajasthan. They toured about, prescribed medicines and performed cataract operations even in streets and lanes.<sup>76</sup>

With the establishment of the Marwar Agency, the Agency Hospital was opened at Jodhpur.<sup>77</sup> Attempt was made to provide Jodhpur with a charitable dispensary in 1847, but the first modern medical institution established at the capital by the *Raj* dates from 1853. It consisted of a modest house containing quarters for the hospital assistant, a small surgery and two rooms for the sick. It was the only hospital in the state till February, 1865, when one more was opened at Pali. Subsequently, a dispensary was opened at Jasole in 1870, and a hospital at Nagaur in July 1874.<sup>78</sup> The

72. Oral evidence of aged practitioners, loc. cit.

73. (i) Ibid.

(ii) Adams, op. cit., p. 255.

The reputed physicians of Jodhpur in the last quarter of the nineteenth century were (i) Rajvaidya Mukan Chand (ii) Guran Umed Dutt Chanodwala

(iii) Jati Moti Chand (iv) Rajvaidya Magni Ram (v) Rajvaidya Radha Vallabh Some hereditary vaidyas of Nagore, Didwana and Desuri were also well know.

74. (i) Hendley, op. cit., p. 39.

(ii) Adams, op. cit., p. 254.

75. Adams, op. cit., pp. 255-56.

76. (i) For. Pol. April 13, 1840 No. 29-31 and Nov. 23, 1840 No. 19-20.

(ii) Adams, op. cit., p. 298.

77. (i) For. Pol. Feb. 6, 1847 No. 27-28.

(ii) For. Pol. Des No. 24 d June 4, 1854 from the Court of Directors.

(iii) Hendley, op. cit., p.

78. Adams, op. cit., pp. 284-86

same year, two branches of the Jodhpur Hospital were opened in the capital for public and a third was attached to the Central Jail.<sup>79</sup> The Government of India established hospitals at Didwana and Sambhar for the relief of those employed in the Salt Works.<sup>80</sup> Thus by 1881, there were ten hospitals and dispensaries in Marwar. The number increased to twenty in 1891, thirty one in 1901 and thirty three with three hundred seventy five beds in 1898.<sup>81</sup>

Some of the dispensaries were shifted to more convenient and central places; a few, which could not attract people, were closed and new ones were also opened. Thus in 1922-23, there were in all thirty eight hospitals and dispensaries in Marwar. Of them five were maintained by the Government of India at the Salt Works of Didwana, Pachpadra and Sambhar, the Preventive Salt Line of Bhatki and at the Residency; and thirty two by the *Raj*. Of the latter, the Fort, the Ratanada Palace, the Jail and the Leper House dispensaries, and the Military Station and the Police Lines hospitals served special interests. The remaining twenty five state hospitals and dispensaries and the Mission Hospital were open to public.<sup>82</sup>

Of the public institutions the Hewson Hospital and the Jaswant Women Hospital were the most important. The former, opened on February 15, 1888, took the place of the first hospital that had been built in Jodhpur by the *Raj*. It was always well stocked with medicines and appliances and had two theatres, one for general surgery and another for ophthalmic, and a separate department for out-patients. It provided eighty beds for in-patients.<sup>83</sup> The Jaswant Hospital established on November 24, 1896 solely for women was located in the heart of the city in the *Talheti-*

79. (i) Hendley, op. cit., p. 68.

(ii) Adams, op. cit., pp 62-63.

80 Adams, op. cit., pp. 298-99.

81. Hospitals/Dispensaries at Bali. Barmer, Bhinmal, Bilara, Desuri, Didwana, Jalore, Jasole, Marwar Junction, Merta City, Merta Road, Nagaur, Nawa, Pachpadra, Pali, Phalodi, Sanchoe and Sojat were maintained by the *Raj*. Hewson Hospital, Jaswant Hospital for Women, Jail Hospital, Branch Hospital, Branch Dispensary, Military Hospital, Police Lines Hospital and Railway Dispensary were also maintained by the *Raj* at Jodhpur.

Pokran Dispensary was maintained by the thakur of Pokran. Dispensaries at Bhatki, Didwana, Pachpadra and Sambhar Salt Works, Sojat Road and the Jodhpur Residency were maintained by the Government of India.

The Mission Hospital was run at Jodhpur by the Free Church of Scotland Mission Society.

(i) MAR (1907-08), Chap. VI Sec. 30, p. 53; and Appendix XXIII.

(ii) Erskine, op. cit., Vol. III A, Chap. XX, p. 172 and Vol. III B, Table XXXIII, pp. 57-58

82. MAR (1922-23), Chap. VI, p. 56 and Appendix XXIV.

83. (i) Adams, op. cit., p. 260

(ii) Erskine, op. cit., Vol. III A, Chap. XX, p. 173.

*ka-Mahal* and it provided accommodation for forty in-patients. It was uniformly looked after by a qualified lady doctor.<sup>84</sup> Indoor patients were also kept at district dispensaries.<sup>85</sup> Medicines were supplied free of cost.<sup>86</sup> Patients were sent to the Pasteur Institute, Kasauli for anti-rabid treatment at State expense <sup>87</sup>

A lunatic asylum was opened in one of the tenements of the Jail in 1894. Inmates were looked after and kept comfortable by men and women warders. Dangerous lunatics were transferred to Lahore and Agra asylums.<sup>88</sup> The cenotaphs of Kaga, one of the suburbs of the Jodhpur city, afforded till 1905 shelter to lepers who gathered there from different places. They received food from generous town-folk.<sup>89</sup> A regular asylum was built for them at Mandore. It could accommodate fifty inmates. All of them were fed, clothed and treated free by the state.<sup>90</sup>

These hospitals and dispensaries were under the administrative charge of the Residency Surgeon. In 1924, the charge was transferred to the *Raj* and Major Hance was appointed Principal Medical Officer the following year.<sup>91</sup>

On the medical side, treatment was given for malaria, rheumatism, scurvy, enteric fever, diarrhoea, dysentery, trachoma and other eye diseases, debility and anaemia, and venereal diseases.<sup>92</sup> Quinine pills and powders were given free to those suffering from malaria which was very common. This drug was also sold at post offices in 5 grn. pice packets.<sup>93</sup> Another disease, to which the attention of Dr. Moore was invited, was guinea-worm. He frankly admitted that its treatment required much care and prevention was easier than cure.<sup>94</sup> On the surgical side abscesses were opened, and

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84. (i) MAR (1896-97), Chap. XIII, p. 73.

(ii) Adams, op. cit., p. 262.

(iii) Erskine, op. cit., Vol. III A, Chap. XX, p. 173.

85. (i) Erskine, op. cit., Vol. III B, Table XXXIII, pp. 57-58.

(ii) MAR (1922-23), Appendix XXIV.

86. Gehlot, op. cit., p. 440.

87. MAR (1922-23), Chap. VI, p. 57.

88. (i) MAR (1905-6), Chap. VI Sec. 32, p. 30.

(ii) Erskine, op. cit., Vol. III A, Chap. XX, p. 174.

89. (i) Adams, op. cit., pp. 226-27.

(ii) Erskine, op. cit., Vol. III A, Chap. XX, p. 174.

90. (i) MAR (1904-05), Chap. VI, Sec. 30, p. 25.

(ii) Erskine, op. cit., Vol. III A, Chap. XX, p. 174.

91. (i) MAR (1922-23), Chap. VI, p. 56.

(ii) For. Pol. File No. 82 (61) Estt. - 1922.

92. (i) Hendley, op. cit., pp. 88-90 and 114-15.

(ii) Adams, op. cit., pp. 207-30.

93. (i) MAR (1894-95), Chap. XI, p. 60.

(ii) Erskine, op. cit., Vol. III A, Chap. XX, p. 175.

94. For Gen. A Oct. 1871, No. 45-47 (Dr. Moore's views on guinea-worm).

operations on the eyeball and its appendages, on the head and face, on arteries, on respiratory, digestive, urinary and generative organs and on bones and joints were performed. Chloroform was given before the performance of operations.<sup>95</sup> Cholera and plague often broke out as epidemics. Quarantine measures in the form of evacuation of the infected villages, segregation of the suspect and contacts and surveillance over arrivals from infected areas were effectively enforced. Inoculation was introduced during the post-War period. For this purpose observation and precautionary posts were set up at important railway stations and junctions of roads.<sup>96</sup> During the periods of drought and famine, dispensaries were opened at important relief work-sites. The Residency Surgeon visited them and examined the workers.<sup>97</sup>

The state spent in 1922-23 two lacs of rupees on public dispensaries and hospitals where two hundred seven thousand out-patients and twenty five hundred in-patients were treated and thirty one hundred major and eighty six hundred minor operations performed that year.<sup>98</sup>

Besides, there was the Mission Hospital which was opened on July 14, 1882 by the Free Church of Scotland Mission Society. It was considerably altered and extended in 1900 for which the *Darbar* gave a handsome grant-in-aid. The Mission Surgeon and his assistants visited patients even at their own houses in and about the city, and some times in the districts as well.<sup>99</sup> Jodhpur was the pioneer princely state of Rajasthan to establish a branch of the Indian Red Cross Society in 1920 for the care of the sick and the wounded. Lady Chelmsford Maternity and child welfare centre was also set up for training women in domestic hygiene, maternal problems and child welfare.

While the allopathic system of medicine and surgery was steadily making headway under the *Raj* patronage, the *vaidyas* and *hakeems* did not lose ground both among the masses and the classes.

95. (i) Hendley, op. cit., pp 94-95.

(ii) Adams, op. cit., pp 240-47.

96. (i) Adams, op. cit., pp. 251-52.

(ii) MAR (1904-05), Chap. VI Sec. 30, p. 30.

(iii) MAR (1905-06), Chap. VI Sec. 30, p. 30.

(iv) MAR (1918-19 to 20-21), Chap. VI, pp. 78-79.

97. (i) Adams, op. cit., p. 253.

(ii) MAR (1905-06), Chap. VI Sec 30, p. 30.

(iii) MAR (1915-16), Chap. VI Sec. 58, p. 70.

98. (i) MAR (1922-23), Chap. VI, p. 56 and Appendix XXIV.

99. (i) Adams, op. cit., pp. 260 and 263.

(ii) Erskine, op. cit., Vol. III A, Chap. XX, p. 173.

(iii) Gehlot, op. cit., p. 441.

## Vaccination

The most remarkable service was rendered by the introduction of vaccination for the prevention of small-pox. This disease, which was frequent and widespread, caused enormous mortality and morbidity among children. Marks of the disease contracted in childhood were visible on nearly every adult. Many suffered from loss of impaired vision due to this virus disease.<sup>1</sup> An attempt to introduce vaccination in Marwar was made in 1841,<sup>2</sup> but it appears to have been finally introduced in 1866 when four thousand persons were vaccinated. There were at that time three vaccinators.<sup>3</sup> The number was increased to nine in 1870 and to eleven in 1875.<sup>4</sup> They vaccinated nineteen hundred persons (10.7 per mille of the population) in 1881.<sup>5</sup> This small number bears testimony to the opposition that was offered to vaccination by the people.

In 1885, *Maharajkumar Sardar Singh*, the heir-apparent, was vaccinated. This greatly set aside the fears of the people; vaccination received popularity, and the vaccination staff was increased from eleven to fifty. That year, four thousand vaccinations were performed, most of which were successful.<sup>6</sup> The Marwar *thakurs* were induced to keep their own vaccinators, but the scheme did not work well. Salaries were paid to the vaccinators only when the Residency Surgeon visited the *thakur's* place. This system was abandoned and the *thakurs* agreed to contribute towards the maintenance of the staff of vaccinators. In this way, ample funds became available.<sup>7</sup> The number of vaccinators was gradually increased to eighty four. *Brahman* women vaccinators were engaged for close *parda* families and sweeper vaccinators among low castes. Thus little room was left for objections of the people.<sup>8</sup> Vaccination became common.

Marwar was divided into six vaccination circles each under an assistant superintendent in 1889. From 1890-91 to 1899-1900 on an average eighty thousand persons were successfully vaccinated every year. Vaccination became almost compulsory and it did much to

1. Adams, op. cit., p. 210.

2. For. Pol. July 5, 1841 No. 77 (Introduction of Vaccination in Marwar).

3. (i) Adams, op. cit., p. 266.

(ii) Erskine, op. cit., Vol. III A, Chap. XX, p. 174.

4. (i) Adams, op. cit., p. 266.

(ii) Erskine, op. cit., Vol. III A, Chap. XX, p. 174.

5. Ibid.

6. (i) Adams, op. cit., p. 266.

(ii) Erskine, op. cit., Vol. III A, Chap. XX, p. 174.

7. (i) Adams, op. cit., p. 266-67.

(ii) Erskine, op. cit., Vol. III A, Chap. XX, p. 174.

8. (i) Adams, op. cit., 267.

(ii) Erskine, op. cit., Vol. III A, Chap. XX, 175.

mitigate the ravages of small-pox.<sup>9</sup> In earlier years, arm to arm vaccination was the method in vogue. It was supplemented by buffalo calf lymph.<sup>10</sup>

### Public Health and Civic Life

The construction of the Residency and the Raikabagh and Ratanada palaces with a cluster of grand residential houses of Europeans, feudal lords and other elites away from the crowded city and the erection of cavalry lines and its barracks and stables contributed a lot to the urban sprawl of the capital city. The urban progress was maintained by the development of railways, growth of trade and commerce and the emergence of a variety of administrative units and public welfare activities. Regularly laid out residential areas with space for games and recreation were added to the irregular net of crooked narrow streets of the medieval centre.<sup>11</sup>

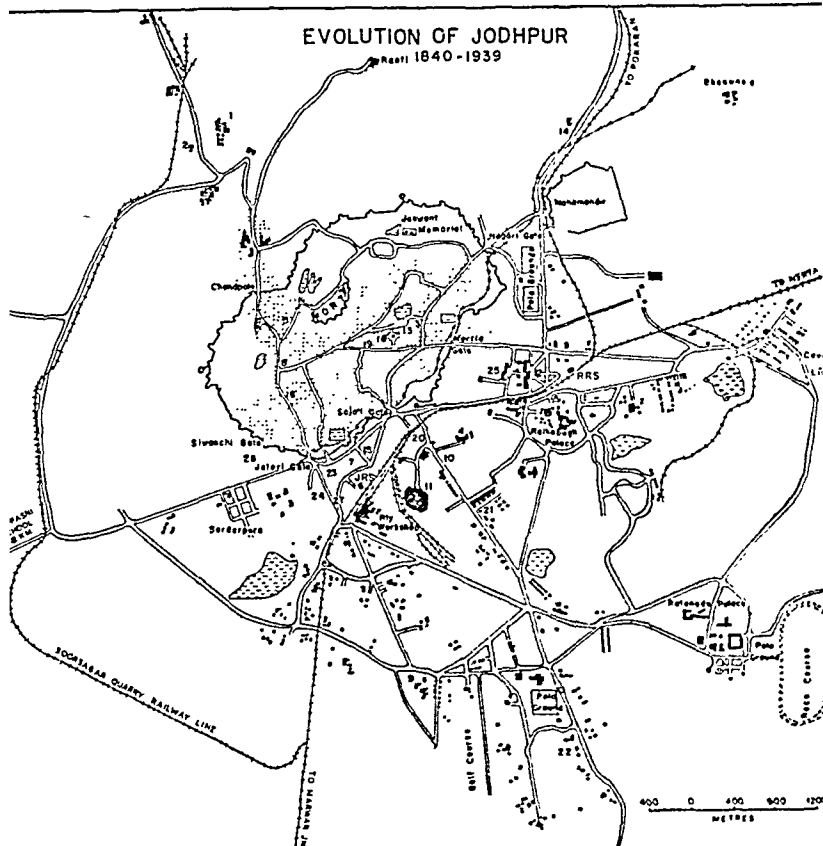
In order to improve the sanitary condition of the growing city a conservancy system had been attempted in 1875. It was reorganised in 1882,<sup>12</sup> but real advancement was made in 1884 by the constitution of the municipal committee with the Residency Surgeon as president for the regulation of public health and sanitation, prevention of encroachments on the public streets and thoroughfares and transaction of other civic business.<sup>13</sup> A staff of sweepers was engaged, rubbish carts were purchased and public latrines, both for men and women, erected.<sup>14</sup> The system worked well and was extended. Latrines were used by all the castes except *Shrimali Brahmans* for whom a special plot of ground was allotted.<sup>15</sup> For conservancy purposes Jodhpur and its suburbs were divided into four circles each served by a corps of sweepers, and a staff of municipal police was employed for the prevention and detection of public nuisance.<sup>16</sup> Older roads were repaired and paved. New ones were superimposed. Arboriculture on either side of the roads received particular

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9. (i) Adams, op. cit., pp. 266 and 270.
  - (ii) Erskine, op. cit., Vol. III A, Chap. XX, p. 175.
  10. (i) Adams, op. cit., p. 275.
  - (ii) Erskine, op. cit., Vol. III A, Chap. XX, p. 175.
  11. Kumbhat, P.C., Urban Morphology of Jodhpur, pp. 41-44.
  12. Adams, op. cit., p. 277.
  13. (i) MAR (1884-85), para 79, pp. 143-44.
  - (ii) Adams, op. cit., p. 277.
  14. (i) MAR (1884-85), para 133, p. 75.
  - (ii) Adams, op. cit., p. 277.
  15. (i) Adams, op. cit., p. 278.
  - (ii) Erskine, op. cit., Vol. III A, Chap. XX, p. 154.
  16. Adams, op. cit., p. 279.



# EVOLUTION OF JODHPUR

Realt 1840-1939



1. POLITICAL AGENCY-1840 2. VOTASHALA-1843 3. BYANAHANDI PATHSHALA-1859 4. DARRAR HIGH SCHOOL-1876 5. MUNICIPAL COMMITTEE-1884 6. POST OFFICE-1886 7. BHU PRATAP SCHOOL-1887 8. NEWSON HOSPITAL-1888 9. WRS RESIDENCY-1891 10. JASWANT COLLEGE-1893 11. NEW CENTRAL JAIL-1904 12. JUBILEE COURT-1906 13. ASSISTANT FEMALE HOSPITAL-1898 14. SUMER SCHOOL-1898 15. JASWANT SARAI-1899 16. NEWSON HOSPITAL-1900 17. BHU PAROCHIAL-18-MARCH-1905 18. SARDAR MARKET AND CLOCK TOWER-1901 19. SUMER MARKET-1918 20. SARDAR MUSEUM AND SUMER PUBLIC LIBRARY-1915-17 21. POLICE LINES-1925 22. STATE HOTEL-1930 23. NEWSON HOSPITAL-1932 24. SARDAR SCHOOL-1936 25. WILKINSON GARDENS, LIBRARY AND MUSEUM-1935-36 26. UMAID HOSPITAL-1936 27. MURLIN SCHOOL-1938

JRS-JODHPUR RAILWAY STATION RRS-RAIKA BAGH RAILWAY STATION  
 CITY WALL TANK OLD CITY BUILT-UP AREA BUNGALOWS OF EUROPEANS AND NOBLES  
 RAILWAY LINE CONSERVANCY TRAMWAY

attention. Walls of tanks were raised and constructed. By-laws were made to control traffic. Use of adulterated sugar was banned on pain of confiscation of the commodity and fine.<sup>17</sup> The registration of births and deaths was introduced in Jodhpur on January 1, 1894.<sup>18</sup> In 1897-98, a conservancy tramway line was constructed. It passed along almost all the public latrines twice a day early morning and late at night. Wagons were loaded with filth and refuse and collected and formed into trains outside Sojati gate whence they were hauled by steam power, a distance of nearly 8 kms into the open country where the night soil was trenched and the rubbish burnt. The year following, the line was extended and its total length was more than 22 kms.<sup>19</sup> Jodhpur was the first city in Rajasthan to have introduced this kind of conservancy system. The creation of Sardar and Sumer markets with a majestic clock tower was a remarkable addition to the cityscape.<sup>20</sup> The opening and modest development of the Sardar Museum and the Sumer Public Library widened their vision of the people, and had an educative and cultural value.<sup>21</sup> Steps were also taken for the protection and preservation of historical monuments and buildings.

Till the beginning of the present century there were no road lights. Subsequently, kerosene oil and Kitson lamps were put up at turning points and on the main streets.<sup>22</sup> In 1919, Power House was built and electric light began replacing kerosene light both in private houses and on public streets.<sup>23</sup>

With such beginnings the scope of municipal functions widened. The board was, therefore, reorganised and divided into four sub-committees for (i) Health and Sanitation (ii) Public Works (iii) Finance and (iv) Watch and Ward.<sup>24</sup>

These sub-committees were in no sense the final authority in their respective fields. Official element also predominated in them. In 1918, the size of the board was reduced to seven members four ex-officio and three nominated.<sup>25</sup> In districts, Pali was the

17. (i) MAR (1885-86), Chap. IX, Sec. III, para 127, pp. 48-49.

(ii) Adams, op. cit., pp. 277-78.

18. MAR (1894-95), Chap. XI, p. 59.

19. (i) MAR 1897-98), Chap. XIV, p. 58.

(ii) Erskine, op. cit., Vol. III A, Chap. XV, p. 155.

20. MAR (1901-02), Chap. XIII, p. 36.

21. (i) MAR (1916-17), p. 18.

(ii) Reu, op. cit., p. 525.

22. MAR (1917-18), Chap. III, p. 22.

23. (i) MAR (1918-19 to 20-21), Chap. III, p. 40.

(ii) Reu, op. cit., Vol. II, p. 531.

24. RSAJ, MK File 2/15 Part I Jodhpur Municipality.

25. MAR (1918-19 to 20-21), Chap. III, p. 24.

first town to have a municipality in 1908.<sup>26</sup> Later on municipalities were established at Nagaur in 1913, Phalodi and Balotra in 1915 and Didwana in 1920.<sup>27</sup>

### Reform of Prison Life

While care was given to public health and sanitation of Jodhpur, steps were also taken to make the Jodhpur Jail a fit place for human beings. Till 1873, the jail was a part of the *kotwali* located in the heart of the city. It was too small, too badly ventilated and too dirty for even convicts to live in. There were no arrangements for washing, cooking and conservancy.<sup>28</sup>

In 1874, on the advice of the Political Agent, an octagonal building outside Sojati Gate, originally intended for stables, was built and some industries were started in it. Kitchens and latrines were provided.<sup>29</sup> The system of recovering the cost of food from the inmates was given up in 1884.<sup>30</sup> The same year, a vegetable garden was laid out.<sup>31</sup> Jail barracks were provided with iron bars in 1888, and the use of iron *bel* chain, which passed through the top ring of the fetters of all the inmates of each dormitory was discontinued.<sup>32</sup> Medical aid was also afforded to prisoners.

The need for a larger building was felt and a new jail building on modern hygienic principles was built between 1890 and 1894. It possessed separate tenements for under-trial and women prisoners, kitchens, store rooms, hospital and other adjuncts of a modern prison.<sup>33</sup> Prisoners were shaved and given blankets and clothes. History tickets and medical examination reports were maintained.<sup>34</sup>

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26. MAR (1908-09), Chap. III, p. 20.
  27. (i) MAR (1929-30), Chap. III, p. 25.  
(ii) Reu, op. cit., Vol. II, p. 625.
  28. (i) Hardayal Singh, op. cit., para 378 and 716.  
(ii) Adams, op. cit., p. 310.
  29. (i) ARS (1874-75), Marwar Agency Report, paras 9 and 10, p. 98.  
(ii) Hardayal Singh, op. cit., para 378, pp. 716-17.  
(iii) Adams, op. cit., p. 301.
  30. (i) MAR (1884-85), para 138, p. 77.  
(ii) ARS (1884-85), WRSA Report.  
(iii) Erskine, op. cit., Vol. III A, Chap. XVIII, p. 164.
  31. (i) Adams, op. cit., pp. 301-02.  
(ii) Erskine, op. cit., Vol. III A, Chap. XVIII, p. 164.
  32. (i) MAR (1888-89), Chap. XI, para 106, p. 49.  
(ii) Adams, op. cit., p. 302.
  33. (i) MAR (1889-90), Chap. XIV, para 138, p. 72.  
(ii) MAR 1890-91), Chap. XIV, p. 57.  
(iii) MAR (1894-95), Chap. XIII, p. 72.  
(iv) Erskine, op. cit., Vol. III A, Chap. XVIII, p. 164.
  34. (i) MAR (1894-95), Chap. XIII, p. 72.  
(ii) MAR 1895-96), Chap. XV, p. 81.

Prisoners, well behaved and with good antecedents, were entrusted with watch and ward duties inside the jail. Dangerous and recalcitrant inmates were confined in solitary cells.<sup>35</sup> The system of supplying cooked food instead of dry rations was introduced from September 1, 1896. The diet scale was also revised.<sup>36</sup> Prisoners were employed in mending roads, watering gardens, and in weaving coarse rugs, durries, blankets and dusters.<sup>37</sup> It not only yielded revenue to the state, but also trained the prisoners for earning their livelihood.

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35. MAR (1895-96), Chap. XV, p. 81.

36. MAR (1896-97), Chap. XVI, p. 86.

37. (i) Erskine, *op. cit.*, Vol. III A, Chap. XVIII, pp. 164-65.  
(ii) MAR (1922-23), Chap. III, p. 31.

## Chapter VIII

# INTRODUCTION OF MODERN EDUCATION

### Indigenous System

According to the Western Rajputana States Gazetteer, "In former days, the Darbar took no interest in education; and the chiefs and nobles, as a rule, considered reading and writing as beneath their dignity and as arts which they paid their servants to perform for them".<sup>1</sup> This was not exactly true. The Political Agent, Major Nixon, in 1864, reported that a number of female children of the upper Hindu classes were able to read and write. They did not attend school, but were taught by their teachers at home.<sup>2</sup> In 1863, *Maharaja* Takhat Singh not only educated his daughters and other children of his family, but also employed four women secretaries to collect and collate information about the estates of the lady members of his family.<sup>3</sup> His predecessor Man Singh was among other things a man of letters.<sup>4</sup> Nixon visited some schools in Marwar where he saw the sons of traders, priestly castes, and artisans being taught. He noticed that only lowly born and outcastes such as *Dhaidis* and *Mehtars* were excluded from schooling. The sons of thakurs could read and write; but after attaining power they did not write letters with their own hand. One of their shortcomings was want of 'mental culture'.<sup>5</sup>

As a matter of fact, schools were maintained but they were single teacher private institutions of the indigenous type such as *poshals* and *pathshalas* in which reading, writing and arithmetic were taught. An authentic report about them is hardly available. But on the basis of the Buch Report about the system of education prevalent in the villages around Ajmer in 1851 and the oral

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1. Erskine, op. cit., Vol. III A, Chap. XIX, p. 166.

2. Pr. 12 (Nixon, PA to Lawrence, AGG No. 41-15 G. d. July 20, 1863) in For. Gen. A July, 1864 No. 10-18.

3. Ibid.

4. Author of *Krishnavilas*, *Manpadya-Sangrah*, *Bihari-Satsai Tika*, *Kavitts*, *Savaiyas*, *Dohas* and many other works on Naths. He also patronised poets and other learned men.

(i) Ojha, op. cit., Vol. II, p. 872.

(ii) Reu, op. cit., Vol. II, p. 439.

5. For. Pol. No. 12 (Nixon to Lawrence d. July 20, 1863), loc. cit.

evidence of grand old men from Jodhpur it can be safely said that these *poshals* and *pathshalas* were run by *pujaris* in the temples, *gurans* in some houses in the locality and *Jain jatis* in the *upasaras*.<sup>6</sup> They taught Hindi to enable children to read and write letters, learn a little of arithmetic and accounts to run business or do *Raj* service. *Brahmans* and *Jain jatis* went in for higher education in Sanskrit, in Astrology, in Ayurveda and in religious scriptures. Education, both general and professional, was imparted to the children of *mutsaddis* by the family elders and family *gurans*. *Maulvis* taught Urdu and Persian in the *maktabs* run exclusively for Muslims in the mosques. Arabic was also taught.

Regular fees was not charged by the teacher; he was paid Re. 1 by the pupil when he attained a certain standard. Dry rations in the form of *Sidha* (gifts) were given on the *Amavasya* and the *Purnima* ( 15th and 30th days of the month ) to the teacher by several families. It was sufficient to maintain him and his family. On occasions of birth, death and marriage he was given clothes and bedding. The teacher thus taught the children and the society looked after him.

This traditional system, which was widespread in Marwar, must have received a setback during the confusion that prevailed continuously from 1750 to 1850 or so. When law and order was restored, little effort was made to rejuvenate it. The rulers thought educated people would seldom bow down to the autocratic rule of one man and purposely neglected education. The people too saw no need of education. A man with some knowledge of Hindi could secure *Raj* job and rise to the highest office. There were also misgivings in the minds of the orthodox elements that English education would make people Christians and they too were satisfied with the kind of education that was imparted by the *gurans* and *jatis*.

As a result of the interest and initiative of the P. A. Col. French, who conceived the idea of educating the people of the capital, *Vidyashala* was founded at Jodhpur in 1844.<sup>7</sup> The building was constructed and instruments were purchased for the observatory attached to it.<sup>8</sup> The school being distant from the city, carriages

6. (i) Mehta Ranjeet Mal, Judge, Marwar Chief Court and Rajasthan High Court (1925-50). His father Mehta Bakhtawar Mal, one of the few oldest boys of the Darbar School, was a high official of the state.

(ii) J. J. Hathi, Inspector of Schools, Marwar (1906-14 and 1924-38) aged 87.

(iii) K. N. Bhargava, Head Master, Recipient of National Award.

7. (i) For. Pol. August 7, 1947 No. 847 (Sutherland's Review of Jodhpur affairs).

(ii) Marwar Precs, p. 134.

8. Ibid.

were used every morning for conveyance of children free of charge.<sup>9</sup>

The equivocal success of *Vidyashala* lasted only for six months. Later on it existed for a few years as an ordinary school imparting education in Sanskrit and Persian to thirty pupils.<sup>10</sup>

### Need for the study of English

Till the sixties of the nineteenth century the medium of communication between the British political officers and the ruling chiefs of Rajasthan was Persian. Neither of them could read and understand it well. The P. A. Jodhpur, Major Dixon, therefore, suggested to the A.G.G. that vernacular reports, furnished by native officials should be written in English instead of Persian or Hindi. The chiefs also preferred to communicate in English regarding their personal and family affairs.<sup>11</sup> So a need for the study of English language and a modern school was felt. But it was not at Jodhpur that a successful attempt of opening an English school was first made. The earliest schools were opened at Jasole and Barmer in Malani *pargana*, which had been under the direct occupation and administration of the British since 1836. It is not known when these schools were first started. They were attended by about one hundred boys in 1863. The Political Agent financed them from a special fund at his disposal.<sup>12</sup>

### The first school at Jodhpur

In 1867, two enlightened men of Jodhpur alive to the needs of the times, *Raoraja* Moti Singh son of *Maharaja* Takhat Singh and *Manihar* Ratanlal, first Marwari youth to receive English education at Ajmer and Presidency College, Calcutta, thought of starting an English school in Jodhpur.<sup>13</sup> A meeting of *Raj* officials and dignitaries interested in educational matters was convened by them on March 23, 1867.<sup>14</sup> All the members present supported

9. For. Gen. A May 1863 No. 62 (Western Rajasthan — A memoir of tour by E. I. Howard, Director of Public Instruction, Bombay).

10. Ibid.

11. Pr. 12 (Nixon, PA to Lawrence, AGG No. 41-15 G. d. July 20, 1863), loc. cit.

12. Erskine, op. cit., Vol. III A, Chap. XIX, p. 166.

13. (i) Hardayal Singh, op. cit., para 440, p. 801.

(ii) Mehta, The Outline of the Darbar High School History, Jodhpur, Sec. 1.

14. The members present were :- Guran Agar Chand, Guran Gyan Chand, Musahib Ala Moti Singh, Hakim Mirza Haji Beg, Kr. Chain Singh, Kaviraj Muraridan, Mehta Vijai Singh, Mehta Jaswant Raj, Pandit Shiv Narayan, Bhati Man Singh Mutha Kundan Mal, Munshi Heeralal, Manihar Ratanlal Pandit Ayodhya Nath, Pandit Panchanand, Risaldar Wazir Ali, Dhaddha Retanlal, Dhaddha Harkmal, Charan Nathudan, Surana Ambabux, Singhvi Samarth Raj and Pandit Alam Ghand. Mehta, op. cit, Sec. 1, p. 3.

the project and *Gyananandi Pathshala* was opened on April 1, 1867 with fifteen pupils.<sup>15</sup> Moti Singh undertook to finance it and Ratanlal to manage it honorarily.<sup>16</sup> The pioneers of the school also started a Hindi weekly named *Marudharmint*, which was printed in the lithographic press attached to it.<sup>17</sup>

In the beginning only English was taught, for which Kistodhone Banerji was brought from Calcutta with a salary of seventy five rupees per month.<sup>18</sup> Later on Hindi was also introduced in the course of instruction. Pandit Panchanannd, a Hindi-Sanskrit scholar, was selected for the post on a monthly pay of fifteen rupees.<sup>19</sup> Since Urdu happened to be the court language, a *Maulvi* was also appointed in the following year.<sup>20</sup>

The school was visited first of all by Major Impey, P.A., on December 4, 1867. He was pleased to see it running efficiently. The boys submitted to him a petition for the school being taken over by the *Raj* for its better maintenance and permanency. The reply was, "*Wajib lekin Mushkil* (the request is right but difficult of being acceded to)."<sup>21</sup> It was next visited by the A.G.G., Col. Keatinge, on March 4, when the boys again presented a petition, as on the previous occasion. It had the desired effect this time. The school was taken over by the state with effect from July 10, 1869 and renamed Darbar School.<sup>22</sup> *Raj* patronage was also extended to the *Marudharmint* and the press. They were included in the civil list and renamed as Marwar Gazette and Marwar State Press respectively.<sup>23</sup> Along with this school a Hindi *pathshala* was also started in the capital. In the year following vernacular

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15. (i) Hardayal Singh, op. cit., para 440, p. 801.  
(ii) Mehta, op. cit., Sec. I, p. 4.  
(iii) Cox, A. P., Forty Years on Reminiscences (1968), p. 169.
  16. (i) Hardayal Singh, op. cit., para 440, p. 801.  
(ii) Mehta, op. cit., Sec. I, p. 1.
  17. (i) Poonam Chand Gaur, *Niti Shastra Chankya* (V. S. 1925) - Colophon.  
(ii) Hardayal Singh, op. cit., para 445, pp. 802-03.  
(iii) Mehta, op. cit., Sec. I, p. 1.
  18. Ibid., p. 4.
  19. Ibid., p. 7.
  20. Ibid., p. 7.
  21. Ibid., p. 6.
  22. (i) Pr. 23 (Keatinge, AGG to Aitchison, Secy. For. No. 573 G. d. July 25) in For. Gen. A August, 1868 No. 23-24.  
(ii) Hardayal Singh, op. cit., para 440, p. 801.  
(iii) Mehta, op. cit., Sec. II, page 8.
  23. (i) Hardayal Singh, op. cit., para 445, p. 803.  
(ii) Mehta, op. cit., Sec II, p. 8.



schools were opened at the headquarters of nine *parganas*.<sup>24</sup> An Anglo-vernacular school was opened at Pali in 1873.<sup>25</sup> The Darbar School had made an humble beginning on April 10, 1867, and had seventy five boys in July 1869. Under the fostering care of the *Raj* it gained public confidence as an efficient place of public education. As the people had become convinced of its stability, the number of students on roll rose to one hundred and fifty during the next two years.<sup>26</sup> Provision was made for imparting instruction in five languages, viz. (i) English (ii) Persian (iii) Arabic (iv) Sanskrit and (v) Hindi.<sup>27</sup>

Besides the *Maharaja* of Jodhpur and the political officers of the British Government, this school was visited by Dr Buhler, and some other German research scholars. Buhler talked to the local talent, one of whom was Pandit Hansraj<sup>28</sup>

### Education of Nobles

While education received the attention of the *Raj* in Marwar C.K.M. Walter, Political Agent, Bharatpur, advocated the establishment of an institution for imparting liberal education to the sons of chiefs and nobles of Rajasthan.<sup>29</sup>

The opening of Mayo College in 1875 at Ajmer was the outcome of this proposal. *Maharaja* Takhat Singh contributed one lac of rupees for the building of this Eton of India.<sup>30</sup> His son and successor Jaswant Singh II made a free supply of Makrana marble required for it and built a boarding house for the youths of Marwar at a cost of thirty six thousand rupees.<sup>31</sup> Against twelve seats, six boys from Marwar took admission in July, 1876, the first being Maharaj Zalim Singh, the youngest brother of the Maharaja.<sup>32</sup>

24. Schools were opened at Bali, Bilara, Jaswantpura, Jaitaran, Maroth, Nawa, Pachpadra, Sambhar and Siwana.

(i) MAR (1886-87), Chap. XIII, para 163, p. 48.

(ii) MAR (1891-92), Chap. XIX, p. 82.

(iii) Erskine, op. cit., Vol. III A, Chap. XIX, p. 166.

(iv) Mehta, op. cit., Sec. II, p. 15.

25. (i) Hardayal Singh, op. cit., para 440, p. 801.

(ii) Erskine, op. cit., Vol. III A, Chap. XIX, p. 166.

26. Mehta, op. cit., Sec. II, p. 9.

27. Ibid., p. 9.

28. Ibid., p. 14.

29. (i) ARS (1869-70), Bharatpur Agency Report, para 121, p. 142.

(ii) ARS (1875-76), Marwar Agency Report, para 25, p. 89.

30. (i) Reu, op. cit., Vol II, p. 461.

(ii) Asopa, op. cit., p. 303.

31. Reu, op. cit., Vol. II, p. 466.

32. ARS (1875-76), Marwar Agency Report, para 31, p. 23.

Two schools were opened at Jodhpur for the sons of other feudatories in 1875.<sup>33</sup> They were combined and reorganised under the name of Powlett Nobles' School. It was intended that its boys should proceed to the Mayo College, Ajmer. They were brought up under the eye of Sir Pratap who inculcated in them the virtues of courage and manliness. Book-learning probably played a secondary part in the school programme.<sup>34</sup> In 1896, another school was founded at Mandore for common Rajput boys who were provided board and lodging at state expense. It was named after Earl of Elgin, the Governor-General and Viceroy of India. The two schools were amalgamated in 1899. They were again separated and had varying fortunes. The Elgin school was transformed into a boarding house and its inmates were sent to the Darbar High school with a view to giving the Rajput boys wider opportunities of competition. The Powlett Nobles' School was also converted into a feeder to the Mayo College.<sup>35</sup> Because of the prejudice against sending children to a distant place and lack of vision education among the elite did not make headway.<sup>36</sup>

### Subsequent Progress (1876-1887)

The Darbar School, however, grew steadily and developed by 1876 into a high school and sent candidates for the Entrance Examination of the Calcutta University.<sup>37</sup> For two years they appeared as private candidates till the school was recognised and it became the Darbar High School in 1878.<sup>38</sup> There were yet not more than five schools with a total of hundred boys in the whole state. Steps were taken to open new schools.<sup>39</sup> Pargana headquarters of Sanchor got a vernacular school in 1880.<sup>40</sup> In this way eighteen schools were maintained by the state in 1881-82 and a sum of ten thousand rupees was thus spent on their maintenance.<sup>41</sup> So matters continued until 1886-87, when the important towns of Jalore,

33. ARS (1874-75), Marwar Agency Report, para 24.

34. Van Wart, op. cit., p. 75.

35. (i) ARS (1896-97), para 18, p. 32.

(ii) Erskine, op. cit., Vol. III A, Chap. XIX, p. 167.

(iii) MAR (1913-14), Chap. I, p. 6.

(iv) Mehta, op. cit., Chap. III, p. 35.

36. ARS (1875-76), Marwar Agency Report, para 32, p. 23.

37. (i) ARS (1876-77), Marwar Agency Report, para 27, pp. 89-90.

(ii) Mehta, op. cit., Sec. II, p. 16.

38. Ibid., Appendix XXXIV, p. 147.

39. Van Wart, op. cit., p. 74.

40. (i) MAR (1886-87), Chap. XIII, para 163, p. 48.

(ii) Erskine, op. cit., Vol. III A, Chap. XIX, p. 166.

41. Erskine, op. cit., Vol. III A, Chap. XIX, p. 166.

Merta, Nagaur, Phalodi and Sojat were provided with Anglo-vernacular schools. Vernacular institutions were established at eight other places including Chohtan, Gudha and Sindari all the three in Malani.<sup>42</sup> The same year, the capital city of Jodhpur witnessed the opening of the Sanskrit *Pathshala* and Hewson Girls' School so named after Hewson, Assistant Resident, and the amalgamation of the two special schools into one institution styled the Powlett Nobles' School.<sup>43</sup> The only other addition made during this decade was the starting of a class at the high school in 1891 for training boys in telegraphy and qualifying them for employment on the Jodhpur-Bikaner Railway.<sup>44</sup> Thus the number of state institutions had increased to thirty two in 1891-92, namely, one high school, seven Anglo-vernacular and twenty one vernacular schools, one girls' school, and two special institutions, and the annual expenditure amounted to twenty one thousand rupees. Excluding Malani schools, for which figures are not available, the number of pupils on roll was 1,665.<sup>45</sup> The Department of Education had already been instituted in 1886 to cope with the growing needs.<sup>46</sup> The system of scholarships was also introduced to subsidise students and thus attract guardians as well. Discrimination was not shown in awarding them. These scholarships eventually became charitable gifts. The recipients were mostly undeserving. They either did not need them or had long ceased to prosecute any form of study.<sup>47</sup>

### Opening of Jaswant College (1893)

Nine candidates appeared at the Entrance Examination in 1893. All of them were successful and five of them were placed in the second division.<sup>48</sup> This performance prompted the Marwar *Darbar* to open a college at Jodhpur in August, 1893. It was named

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42. MAR (1886-87), Chap. XIII, para 170, p. 49.

43. MAR (1886-87), Chap. XIII, para 163, p. 48; and para 166, p. 49.

44. (i) MAR (1891-92), Chap. XIX, p. 79.

(ii) Erskine, op. cit., Vol. III, Chap. IX, p. 167.

(iii) Mehta, op. cit., Chap. II, p. 34.

(iv) Reu, op. cit., Vol. II, p. 485.

45. The schools located at Barmer, Chohtan, Gudha, Jasole and Sindari in pargana Malani under British administration are also included.

(i) MAR (1891-92), Chap. XIX, pp. 79-82.

(ii) Erskine, op. cit., Vol. III A, Chap. IX, p. 167.

46. (i) MAR (1886-87), Chap. XIII, p. 48.

(ii) Van Wart, op. cit., p. 74.

47. (i) Van Wart, op. cit., pp. 102-03.

(ii) Mehta, op. cit., Chap. II, 28.

48. (i) MAR (1893-94), Chap. XVIII, p. 94.

(ii) Mehta, op. cit., Chap. II, pp. 30-31.

Jaswant College after the *Maharaja's* name,<sup>49</sup> and affiliated to the University of Allahabad. Colleges had already been opened at Ajmer, Jaipur and Bikaner. Most of the products of the Darbar High School had accepted service prior to the opening of the college. They were brought back and awarded monthly scholarships of ten rupees each.<sup>50</sup> The first year class consisted of five boys. The expenditure during the first year came to Rs. 4,731, *i.e.*, Rs. 946.24 per pupil, a much higher average than that of any other college in India.<sup>51</sup> Pandit Ganga Prasad, to whose endeavours the school owed its progress and the college, its birth, died untimely. He was succeeded by *Pandit* Suraj Prakash, M.A. (Chemistry). He held the combined charge of the principal of the college and superintendent of the *Darbar* schools for thirty three years.<sup>52</sup>

The college was raised to the B.A. standard in 1896.<sup>53</sup> Full Arts Course with Economics, Philosophy, Sanskrit and Persian at the Intermediate level and Economics, Philosophy, Sanskrit and Persian at the B.A. level was introduced.<sup>54</sup> The college staff was strengthened and successful candidates were provided with every facility for prosecution of studies.<sup>55</sup> A decent library and a new laboratory wing with a gallery were added to the building.<sup>56</sup>

### Evaluation and Programme

This good work was arrested by drought, disease and debt at the turn of the century. Two Anglo-vernacular schools were, however, opened at Nawa and Balotra, which had grown in importance because of railways.<sup>57</sup> The total expenditure on education amounted to forty one thousand rupees.<sup>58</sup> An enquiry was instituted in 1904 about the progress of education in Rajasthan by F.L. Reid under the direction of the Government of India. Reid visited Jodhpur schools and ascertained the condition of district schools by insti-

49. (i) MAR (1893-94), Chap XVIII, p. 94.

(ii) Erskine, *op. cit.*, Vol III A, Chap. XIX, p. 167.

(iii) Jaswant College Golden Jubilee Book (1946), p. 71.

50. MAR (1893-94), Chap. XVIII, p. 94.

51. *Ibid.*, pp. 94 and 96-97.

52. *Ibid.*, p. 94.

53. (i) MAR (1896-97), Chap. XXI, p. 122.

(ii) ARS (1896-97), WRSA Report, para 18, p. 32.

(iii) Jaswant College Golden Jubilee Book (1946), *looc. cit.*, p. 73.

54. *Ibid.*, p. 73.

55. MAR (1896-97), Chap. XXI, p. 122.

56. *Ibid.*, p. 122.

57. (i) MAR (1896-97), Chap. XXI, p. 123.

(ii) MAR (1898-99), Chap. XXII, p. 82.

58. *Ibid.*, p. 24.

tuting local enquiries.<sup>59</sup> He reported that there were thirty nine recognised educational institutions in Marwar giving instruction to two thousand five hundred children. The *Darbar* spent on them forty five thousand rupees. It was not even one per cent of the state revenue. Again, nearly three-fourths of this amount was spent on the maintenance of the twelve institutions which were located in the capital.<sup>60</sup> The lion's share was taken away by the Jaswant College and the Darbar High School. The pretty little college was a nice institution, but the number of students on roll was so poor that the annual expenditure per capita came to six hundred sixty six rupees.<sup>61</sup> In fact, only the frame work had existed. The Darbar High School had five hundred eighty students on roll, but there was a huge disproportion between the strength of the lower classes and that of the upper classes.<sup>62</sup> The Hewson Girls' School was looked after by a European teacher. The state supported it liberally, but it was also poorly attended, only forty names being on roll.<sup>63</sup> With the exception of the Jaswant College and the Darbar High School all the other institutions were schools of primary and upper primary standard.

The condition of education in rural areas was extremely backward. Five major factors stood in the way of the spread of education in the *parganas*. *Mahajans* felt satisfied if their sons could work out problems of every day Arithmetic by the *patti-pahara* system and could read and write. The population of some of the *parganas* was entirely agricultural and pastoral. It moved about from place to place in search of food and fodder. Schools could not flourish among such unsettled and constantly shifting people. *Jagirdars* did not themselves promote education in their estates. They resented the initiative of the state as well. The *thakur* of Kuchaman, a town of seven thousand inhabitants, had resisted vehemently the opening of a school in his estate. There was no adequate system of guidance and inspection. Schools were visited by men of status, they had little interest in and aptitude for problems of

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59. (i) Report on the Progress of Education in letter No. 440? I.A. d. December 9, 1904 from the Government of India to AGG, quoted by F.L. Reid.

(ii) Letter d. April 14, 1905 from F.L. Reid, Inspector of Schools on special duty to the First Assistant to the AGG, loc. cit.

(iii) ARS (1904-05), WRSA Report, p. 22.

60. Reid Report-Appendix VIII (Reid to RWRS d. April 1, 1905), paras 2 & 3.

61. Ibid., para 4.

62. Ibid., para 5.

63. Ibid., para 6.

school education. The recruitment to the state service depended not upon educational merit, but upon hereditary claims and patronage.<sup>64</sup> Reid, therefore, suggested that :

- (i) The whole of the state should be comprised in one educational system.
- (ii) *Jagirdars* should be persuaded to open vernacular schools or/ and extend the scope of indigenous *poshals*.
- (iii) Vernacular schools should be started at all large towns where boys desirous of employment in the state might obtain education.
- (iv) The old system of hereditary claims and personal favours in the bestowal of minor appointments in the state should be superseded by an educational qualification.
- (v) A better class of teachers should be sought by employing those, who had atleast passed the vernacular examination.
- (vi) Every school should be visited four times a year.<sup>64</sup>

The year 1908 marks a turning point in the history of the progress of education in Marwar. A training school for teachers of Anglo-vernacular schools was opened. The Inspector of Schools, J.J. Hathi, was sent to the Teachers' Training College, Allahabad for obtaining Bachelor's degree in Education and another teacher for a junior diploma in teaching.<sup>65</sup> The same year, the business class was opened as an adjunct to the Darbar High School for imparting training in stenography and type-writing.<sup>66</sup>

The number of institutions rose to sixty five in 1910 and the affiliation of the Jaswant College upto B. Sc. class was sought.<sup>67</sup> Education was now becoming popular. Every educated boy could get a job in the state or in the railway. Those, who could not go beyond sixth or seventh standard, became *hawaldars* and head constables. They also took up jobs on the railway line as train clerks, signallers, guards or as assistant station masters.<sup>68</sup>

### Education during the Regency (1911-15)

Education again received an impetus during the regency of Sir Pratap, who was keen on the all round development of the state. The Elgin School for poor Rajput boys, who were fed, clothed and

<sup>64</sup>. Ibid., para 7.

<sup>65</sup> Ibid., para 8-10.

<sup>66</sup>. MAR (1908-9), Chap. VII, p. 40.

<sup>67</sup>. Ibid., p. 39.

<sup>68</sup>. MAR (1909-10). Chap. VII, pp. 44 and 47-48.

educated at state expense and the Powlett Nobles' School with their varying fortunes had not been able to attract *Rajput* youth. In spite of changed times they considered learning of little account, and good swordsmanship, a brave heart and a good horse as the only requisites for success.<sup>69</sup> Sir Pratap foreseeing the needs of the time reunited the two schools and set on foot a scheme for developing education of the *Rajputs*.<sup>70</sup>

A further impetus was given to them by the appointment of a European principal, R.B. Van Wart.<sup>71</sup> The teaching staff was augmented to meet the increased requirements. It consisted of eighteen teachers in addition to the principal and the head master for two hundred eighty students.<sup>72</sup> In classes, where the number increased, parallel sections of not more than twenty five boys each were opened.<sup>73</sup> Teaching of English was introduced in class II. Drawing formed a regular part of curriculum. The school was raised to a high school in 1913.<sup>74</sup> It was provided at Chopasni nine sq. kms away from the city with a spacious building, which would do credit to any public school.<sup>75</sup> The handsome buildings erected at a cost of over five lacs of rupees could house three hundred seventy boys. It was always packed to the full. Admissions were refused for want of accommodation. The steady and increasing flow of *Rajput* boys went into one or other of the state departments, and a healthy desire for education was thus created.<sup>76</sup>

A deputation headed by the *Maharaja* of Darbhanga and *Pandit* Madan Mohan Malviya came to Jodhpur to obtain contribution for the Banaras Hindu University. A sum of two lacs of rupees was subscribed to the fund for the university with an annual endowment of twenty four thousand for a Chair in Technology to be called Jodhpur Hardinge Chair.<sup>77</sup> This opened the way for bright young men from Marwar to go in for postgraduate and professional education.

69. MAR (1913-14), p. 8, Inaugural address by Lord Hardinge, Governor-General of India.

70. MAR (1910-11), Chap. VII, p. 54. The reunited schools were named Powlett Nobles' Elgin Rajput schools.

71. MAR (1911-12), Chap. VII, para 47, p. 67.

72. Ibid.

73. Ibid., para 47, pp. 67-68.

74. MAR (1912-13), Chap. VII, p. 59.

75. (i) MAR (1913-14), p. 5, Welcome address by the Principal.

(ii) Reu, op. cit., Vol. II, p. 522.

76. Van Wart, op. cit., pp. 187.

77. (i) RSAJ, Proceedings of the special meeting of the Council of Regency, Marwar State, d. February 4, 1913.

(ii) Reu, op. cit., Vol. II, p. 521.

In order to improve the working of the schools, the backbone of educational advancement, and guide the Marwar *Darbar* in such work, services of H.T. Knowlton, an educational expert, were obtained from the Punjab.<sup>78</sup> He toured a large part of the state and visited some of the institutions both in the city and the districts.<sup>79</sup> It was discovered that as a result of a special effort made to induce children to attend school the number of students had risen to seventy three hundred in 1912 and the state spent a lac and a quarter of rupees on education.<sup>80</sup> Even then for every eight children attending a recognised school in British India only one was being educated in Marwar and it was hardly spending half a per cent of the state revenue on education.<sup>81</sup> Marwar thus lagged far behind the British Indian provinces which were spending about one-sixteenth of their revenue on education. The number of teachers employed by the department was only one hundred sixty. Nine of them were graduates, three had passed the First Arts examination and twenty were matriculates. Not a soul among the teachers employed in those days in the vernacular schools of Marwar was a middle pass.<sup>82</sup> Pay scales were too low to attract men of qualifications. Many of the *Darbar* schools were not provided with suitable buildings. Thirty eight schools were housed in rented buildings.<sup>83</sup>

When Knowlton visited schools in Marwar, another seven thousand boys were receiving the knowledge of three R's in two hundred *poshals*.<sup>84</sup> The collection of information about these traditional schools had been discontinued in 1907. But they were very popular. Where a *Darbar* primary school and a *poshal* ran side by side, the latter had larger number of students on roll than the former. The popularity of the *poshals* was due to the fact that within a specified period they taught the students as much Hindi and Arithmetic as would make them efficient shopkeepers.<sup>85</sup> The system was

78. MAR (1911-12), Chap. VII, para 46, p. 64.

79. MAR (1912-13), Chap. VII, pp. 56-57.

80. Knowlton, H.T., Report on the condition of education in the Jodhpur State (1914), Chap. 1, pp. 4-5.

81. Ibid., pp. 5 and 6.

82. Ibid., Chap. I, p. 5 and Chap. 2, p. 13.

83. Ibid., Chap. I, p. 3.

84. Ibid., Chap. I, pp. 5-7.

85. Ibid., Chap. I, pp. 6-8.

The syllabus of the *poshals* given by Knowlton is given below :

Stage I

Consonants (Kako), Consonants combined with Vowels (Barakhadi), Word building without any understanding of its significance (Sidho), and Numeration (Ekavali) from 1 to 100.



that way need based. At the earlier stages it relied upon memory of the child rather than on his understanding. Thus in the acquisition of knowledge understanding followed memory.

The Jaswant College was regularly inspected on behalf of the Allahabad University to which it was affiliated. The staff was adequate and competent. It consisted of three M.A.'s, three B.A.'s, one M.Sc. and a professor of Persian. It prepared candidates on the Arts side up to B.A. and on the Science side up to the Intermediate stage.<sup>86</sup>

No fee was charged. Every student was awarded a scholarship varying in value from nine to twenty rupees. The only conditions for the award were that the student should attend the college for seventy five per cent of the total working days and should not remain absent for ten consecutive days. There was probably no

#### Stage II

Notation up to 1000.

Tables : (a) Integral

$1 \times 1$  to  $10 \times 10$

$11 \times 1$  to  $20 \times 10$

$21 \times 1$  to  $30 \times 10$

(b) Fractional

$31 \times 1$  to  $40 \times 10$

$1\frac{1}{2} \times 1$  to  $1\frac{1}{2} \times 100$

$1\frac{1}{2} \times 1$  to  $1\frac{1}{2} \times 100$

$2\frac{1}{2} \times 1$  to  $2\frac{1}{2} \times 100$

#### Stage III

(a) Fractional tables

$3\frac{1}{2} \times 1$  to  $3\frac{1}{2} \times 100$

$4\frac{1}{2} \times 1$  to  $4\frac{1}{2} \times 100$

$6\frac{1}{2} \times 1$  to  $6\frac{1}{2} \times 100$

(b) Square tables

$1 \times 1$  to  $100 \times 100$

(c) Bare Giyarah - numbers 11 to 20, each multiplied by numbers from 10 to 20.

(d) Fractional tables

$\frac{2}{3} \times 1$  to  $\frac{2}{3} \times 100$  (Poniya)

$\frac{1}{2} \times 1$  to  $\frac{1}{2} \times 100$  (Adiya)

$\frac{1}{4} \times 1$  to  $\frac{1}{4} \times 100$  (Paviya)

(e) Notation of money from one pice to a rupee (Aniya)

#### Stage IV

(a) Simple and compound addition.

(b) Simple and compound subtraction.

(c) Simple multiplication and division.

#### Stage V

(a) Compound multiplication and division.

(b) Simple Interest.

(c) Simple rule of three dealing with monthly payments.

#### Stage VI

Chhota Lekha - Examples of ordinary business calculations involving different kinds of Indian measures and weights.

#### Stage VII

Rule of three, Double rule of three, Current Account, Partnership, Writing (Calligraphy), Commercial correspondence, Banking Accounts, etc.

NOTE : No hard and fast line could be drawn between one stage and another, as no two schools agreed in the arrangement of their stages.

86. Ibid, Chap. V, pp. 50 and 52.

other Arts College in India where students received such an encouragement yet the college failed to attract *Marwari* youths and there were only twenty two pupils in the college. The only sop to tempt students was to make a rule that graduates would be preferred in state service.<sup>87</sup> The annual cost of educating each student in the college amounted to nine hundred rupees, the average annual expenditure being roughly twenty thousand a year.<sup>88</sup>

There was yet only one girls' school in Marwar with Miss Massey as superintendent. The number of students on roll had risen to one hundred and forty. Nevertheless one girl out of every thousand was being schooled in Marwar.<sup>89</sup>

The spread of education among *Rajputs* depended on the successful administration of the Rajput Nobles School, for which Knowlton recommended its division into two standards, upper and lower. The curriculum of the upper school should be revised to correspond more closely with that of an English secondary school. It should include alternative courses in (1) Mathematics (2) Vernacular language (3) Elementary Biology and Physics (4) English language and literature. More attention should be paid to the sequence of lessons and the length of lesson period. The school should be visited by external educationists.<sup>90</sup> Knowlton also made many a useful suggestion for toning up schools :

- (i) Leading *thakurs* and *jagirdurs* should be made interested in the education of the people.
- (ii) Steps should be taken to bring private *poshals* under the supervision of the Education Department. The teachers of such schools should be registered and required to work in accordance with recognised schemes.
- (iii) School buildings of approved plans should be erected at all those places where schools were housed in rented buildings.
- (iv) The salary of a trained primary school teacher should be raised to twelve rupees.
- (v) Syllabi of work together with methods of teaching should be drawn up in detail for the guidance of untrained primary school teachers.

87. Ibid., Chap. V, pp. 50-51.

88. Ibid., Chap. V, p. 54.

89. Ibid., Chap. VIII, pp. 66-67.

90. Knowlton, op. cit., Chap. VII, pp. 58 and 65.

- (vi) Drawing and science masters should be added to the school staff.
- (vii) Grant-in-aid rules should be revised and liberalised.
- (viii) The administration should be strengthened by the appointment of a whole time Director of Education and additional inspecting staff.
- (ix) A new building should be erected for the Darbar High School, Jodhpur and its staff rationalised to suit new conditions.
- (x) In order to place the education of girls on a sound footing the Hewson Girls' School should be rebuilt, its staff strengthened and its branches opened in the city. Similarly, girls' primary schools should be opened at places where Anglo-vernacular middle schools for boys had existed. Parents should be induced to put girls to school <sup>91</sup>

### Post-War Development

But consequent upon the War, during which the Marwar *Darbar* had to bend all its energy towards winning peace and maintaining state forces, little could be done beyond a few steps to advance the cause of education. When Col. Hamilton (later on called Lord Belhaven) took charge of the Education Department as member incharge, he at once observed that education in Marwar was both backward and inefficient. Looking to its revenue Marwar was spending very little on education, and the lion's share was eaten up by a few institutions like the Jaswant College, the Darbar High School and the Rajput School, Chopasni.<sup>92</sup> Consequently the few smaller schools of the districts starved. They were poorly housed and understaffed with low paid teachers.<sup>93</sup> These facts were brought to the notice of the Council of Regency and the status of teachers was improved by raising their pay scales and giving *pargana* allowance to those serving in the districts. Grants were also made for constructing a few school buildings. The significant question of extending primary education and putting it on sound lines still remained unsolved. Services of Rao sahib K M. Bhatji were secured for this purpose towards the end of April, 1920. Bhatji proposed :

- (i) The raising of existing vernacular schools to the standard of Anglo-vernacular primary schools and twenty of them to become Middle schools in two stages.

91. Ibid., Chap. XIII, pp. 86-90.

92. Belhaven, Scheme for the extension of Primary Education in Marwar, Council Note, d. November 11, 1920 (printed).

93. Ibid.

- (ii) The starting of fifteen such schools in *khalsa* villages and sixty in *jagir* villages in the next three years.
- (iii) The establishment of a Normal School as a part of the Darbar High School for providing trained teachers.
- (iv) The strengthening of the staff by the addition of deputy and assistant inspectors with wider powers.
- (v) The reorganisation of the Hewson Girls' School by recruiting qualified teachers and starting two Anglo-vernacular girls' schools in Jodhpur.
- (vi) The supply of furniture to all new schools and teaching aids and appliances to both the old and the new ones.
- (vii) The construction of buildings for twenty two old schools and seventy five new schools, the Hewson Girls' School and twenty two Anglo-vernacular primary schools.
- (viii) The opening of a widows' home in the Hewson Girls' School and giving stipends to widows coming forward for taking up teaching as the means of their livelihood.<sup>94</sup>

The outlay for the whole plan amounted to eleven lacs and a quarter of rupees and it was proposed to be carried through in five years.<sup>95</sup> Lord Belhaven sought the sanction of the council for this noble object of spreading education amongst the masses in the interest both of the people and the rulers. Considering the relations between the state and the *jagirdars* to be a knotty problem, and the outbreak of scarcity the scheme was deferred.<sup>96</sup> Reactionary elements were responsible for this miscarriage. While the plan for mass education was being placed in cold storage, the need of a separate university for Rajasthan arose in 1921. As a result of the passing of the Allahabad University Act and the U.P. Intermediate Education Act the affiliation of the colleges of Rajasthan was being withdrawn from the Allahabad University and it was proposed to open a separate university at Ajmer with the states of Rajasthan represented on its bodies. Jodhpur declined to participate in this scheme.<sup>97</sup>

The beginning of modern education in Marwar was modest but promising. Unfortunately, the educational policy of the state had mainly been one of stagnation till the first quarter of the

94. Ibid.

95. Ibid.

96. Council Proceedings Volume II, C.R. 5 Nov. 16, 1920, pp. 513-14.

97. RSAJ, Mehkma Khas File 27 Part I—Resolution No. 8 d. April 1, 1921.

twentieth century. No doubt, spasmodic attempts, sometimes educationally unsound, were made to raise the level of education. Frequent changes of administration, generally involving a change of policy, and apathy of the public together with the resistance of the feudal elements had much to do with this<sup>1</sup> This backwardness in education did not escape the notice of the paramount power and in his address on the occasion of the investiture of Maharaja Umed Singh with full ruling powers on January 23, 1923 the Governor-General and Viceroy Lord Reading observed, "..... Education is still backward and though expenditure on this subject has been increased by nearly a lac, it remains disproportionate to the total revenues. Your Highness may wisely direct special attention to the improvement of this branch of the administration for a state cannot progress without education and better educational facilities must be provided." In reply to this address, Maharaja Umed Singh instantaneously announced special grants-in-aid to educational and charitable institutions amounting to half a lac. The year following an extensive scheme for the expansion of primary education both in *khalsa* and *jagir* areas was worked out.<sup>2</sup> A sum of one lac of rupees was sanctioned for the purpose.<sup>3</sup> In *khalsa* area the *Darbar* imparted free education and had provided schools in all the villages with a population of two thousand and about half the number of villages with a population of more than seven hundred inhabitants. The *jagirdars*, who were themselves mostly uneducated, could show little enthusiasm. A scheme was now evolved to spread education in *jagir* areas also. It was made incumbent on *jagirdars* to open at their own expense preparatory schools in their *deelgaons* where the population exceeded two thousand. In smaller *deelgaons* and other *patta* villages preparatory schools would be opened by the state. *Jagirdars* would provide suitable school buildings, quarters for teachers and *farrash-cum-chowkidars*. The *Darbar* would also open primary and upper primary classes in *jagir* villages provided the *jagirdars* guaranteed their maintenance and upkeep, for which they could raise funds by levying special *khanda* on the people. As a result, seventeen *jagirdars* at once came forward to open schools in their villages.<sup>5</sup> The *Darbar* opened middle schools in *khalsa* villages in response

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1. Van Wart, op. cit., pp. 75-76

2. MAR (1922-23), Chap. 1, pp. 5-7.

3. MAR (1923-24), Chap. VII, p. 61.

4. Ibid., pp. 62-63.

5. Ibid., p. 63.

to the demands of the inhabitants<sup>6</sup> The Jodhpur Vernacular Middle School was converted into Teachers' Training School.<sup>7</sup> Pay scales were revised to attract better teachers and apprentices on ten rupees a month were recruited for training on their undertaking to serve the state for three years. With a view to giving stimulus to education, schemes of annual merit scholarships, studentships and *bursaries* (merit-cum-need scholarships) were revised and rationalised as detailed below:

- (i) Fifteen scholarships of forty rupees each for middle classes.
- (ii) Twenty scholarships of sixty rupees each for high school classes.
- (iii) Ten scholarships of ninety rupees each for college classes.
- (iv) Two scholarships of fifty rupees each for girls of the middle classes.
- (v) A sum of fifteen hundred rupees for being awarded to poor and deserving students as *bursaries*.
- (vi) Five studentships of five hundred rupees each for two medical and three engineering students.<sup>8</sup>

Scouting was introduced for the moral well-being of the youth. The Marwar State Boys Scout Association was formed with Maharaja Umed Singh, the hope of the people, as chief scout. An advisory committee of eight members was constituted to help him.<sup>9</sup> The Marwar Football League was founded for promoting goodwill and spirit of healthy rivalry in games.<sup>10</sup> The new wave inspired private initiative and Sir Pratap School and Shri Sumer Pushtikar School were raised to high school standard.<sup>11</sup>

In consequence of this expansion the expenditure on education rose to three lacs of rupees in 1923-24 and three lacs and a quarter in 1924-25. The number of students also rose to 8 011 and 8,657 respectively.<sup>12</sup> Quinquennial statistics of educational progress from 1873 to 1923 are given on the next page.

6. MAR (1923-24), Chap. VII, p. 62.

7. Ibid., p. 63.

8. (i) Ibid., pp. 63-64.

(ii) Mehta, op. cit., Chap. V, p. 49.

9. (i) MAR (1923-24), Chap. VII, p. 64.

(ii) Mehta, op. cit., Chap. V, p. 50.

10. (i) MAR (1923-24), Chap. VII, p. 64.

(ii) Mehta, op. cit., Chap. V, p. 49.

11. MAR (1923-24), Chap. XII, p. 58.

12. (i) MAR (1924-25-26), Chap. VII, p. 72-73.

(ii) MAR (1923-24), Chap. VII, p. 57.

## Progress of Education in Marwar (1873-1923)

Year	State Schools				Aided Schools		Total Number of Institutions	No. of students in				Girl Students	Total Expenditure on Education in Rupees
	Vernacular	Anglo Vernacular	High Schools and College	Special Girls'				State	Aided	Schools	Total		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
1873	12	2	—	—	—	—	14	—	—	—	—	—	—
1878	12	1	1	1	—	—	15	—	—	—	—	—	—
1883	13	2	1	2	—	—	18	—	—	—	—	—	10,000
1888	21	6	1	2	1	—	31	1665	—	1665	48	21,000	
1893	25	6	2	3	1	—	27	1481	—	1481	65	25,299	
1898	24	8	2	3	1	—	28	1584	—	1584	75	30,221	
1903	28	9	2	3	1	—	33	1686	—	1686	60	37,503	
1908	33	15	2	3	1	29	83	2997	2054	5051	75	61,787	
1913	47	18	3	3	1	23	94	8761	2553	6314	131	83,181	
1918	49	19	3	2	1	19	92	3154	2412	5567	114	1,11,882	
1923	54	20	3	2	1	17	96	4359	3940	7299	180	2,13,825	

Compiled from : (i) Marwar Administration Reports (1884-1923).

(ii) Reports on the Administration of Rajputana States (1871-1904).

(iii) History of Darbar High School, Jodhpur:

(iv) Rajputana Gazetteer, Vol. III A &amp; B.

All these steps taken so late could not meet the crying need of the situation, nor could they provide a base for the development of the rising generation. The vast mass of people lay under the pressing weight of poverty and ignorance. To tide over such a grim situation a beginning was made in 1926 by the appointment of A.P. Cox, I.E.S., as Director of Education to overhaul and expand the entire system. To him and his schemes the erstwhile Marwar and the present day Jodhpur owe a lot in educational progress and in activating academic life, but he came to Jodhpur too late and at a time when the national movement was in full swing and a policy of reaction had set in in India both against higher and mass education. Had a man of his devotion and drive been there at the helm of the Education Department quarter a century earlier, Marwar would not have lagged behind in educational progress. But history is not concerned with would have beens.



## Chapter IX

### THE UNCHANGING SOCIAL CHANGE

The structure of society in Marwar and other states of the region during the period under study was both feudal and conservative, ridden with caste and clan, custom and creed, privilege and restraint. It grew by force of geographical factors and historical traditions and circumstances. The *Maharaja* was at the top of the state and the *Rathore* clan of *Rajputs* which ruled over Marwar. He was first in war, first in peace, first in emergency and first on every ceremonial occasion in the state.

During the period of British paramountcy the *Maharaja* was succeeded by the eldest son. As soon as an heir was born to him, the news was communicated to the nobles by the *baridars* who carried with them a piece of cloth marked with the baby's foot-prints in saffron.<sup>1</sup> If the *Maharaja* had no male issue, one of the nearest of kin succeeded him. Failing that an heir only from the younger branches of his house, viz., the rulers of the *Rathore* states, which were the offshoots of Marwar, could succeed him. When Man Singh passed away in 1843, leaving behind no male kin, Takhat Singh was adopted from Ahmednagar, which was a branch of the *Rathore* house of Marwar.<sup>2</sup> Unlike Jaipur no *jagirdar* of Marwar could succeed him. On the festive occasions of *Holi*, *Akhateej*, *Dussehra* and *Diwali*, the *Maharaja* dined with his principal nobles and his birthday was also celebrated with pomp and show.<sup>3</sup>

The *Maharaja* stood in the same relation to the paramount power as his nobles stood to him. Thus, he was a feudatory of the paramount power which recognised successions, assumed the guardianship of minors and conferred and withdrew titles, decorations and salutes. Takhat Singh was created a G.C.S.I. in 1866 and his successors Jaswant Singh and Sardar Singh in 1867 and 1910 respectively.<sup>4</sup> Nobles and leading men were also

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1. (i) Sherring, M.A., *The Tribes and Castes of Rajasthan*, pp. 60-61.

(ii) Vyas, op. cit., 180

2. (i) For. Pol. Jan. 27, 1844 Cons. 32 (Ludlow to Sutherland d. Oct. 17, 1843).

(ii) Vyas, op. cit., pp. 114-15.

3. Ibid., 177.

4. Ut supra, pp. 36 and Reu, op. cit., pp. 455, 466 and 513.

conferred upon titles by the paramount power on the King Emperor's birthday, New year's day and other special occasions.<sup>5</sup> The public status of the princes and chiefs was determined by the paramount power in terms of gun salutes. The Maharaja of Jodhpur enjoyed a salute of nineteen guns in his own territories and of seventeen elsewhere.<sup>6</sup>

The younger brothers of the ruling chief and their descendants up to three generations were known as *Rajvis*. They were entitled *Maharaj* during the reign of Abhay Singh.<sup>7</sup> Those born of *pardaets* and *pashans* and their descendants up to three generations were originally known as *babhas*. They were elevated as *Raorajas* in 1852 by Takhat Singh.<sup>8</sup> Concubines admitted to the harems of the chiefs and nobles were called *pardaets*. They had recognised status for conjugal affinity. A *pardaet*, who enjoyed the privilege of a *pasban*, took her seat just below that of the *Maharani*. The *Maharajs* and *Raorajas* were given *jagirs* in hereditary for maintenance and personal service to the *Maharaja*. The *jagirs* were non-transferable. They could not be alienated by sale or gift. The *Maharajs* and *Raorajas* were free from feudal obligations and dues. Their descendants had to discharge and pay them. The *jagirs* could devolve only on the male descendants of the original grantee and were subject to the law of primogeniture. It was laid down in 1873 that adopted sons of *Raorajas* could not inherit *jagirs*.<sup>9</sup>

Among the nobles the *jagirdars* of distinction were styled as *tazimi sardars*. Unlike Mewar and Jaipur most of them in Marwar were *Rathores* descending from the ruling stock. The rest belonging to other *Rajput* clans were known as *ganayats* because of their matrimonial alliances with the *Rathores*. They were distinguished for obedience and gratitude. The *tazimi sardars* were graded according to the degree of recognition which they received from the *Maharaja* when granted audience in the *Darbar*. The *Rathore* nobles called *sirayats* were placed in the first order. They were the descendants of Rao Jodha and his brothers and occupied the first seats in the *Darbar* on the right and the left side

5. Ut supra, pp. 36., Reu, op. cit., 469, 513-14 and 528 and MAR (1921-22), p. 10.

6. Jodhpur (1933), p. 13 and Reu, op. cit., Vol. II, 468 and 513.

7. Hardayal Singh, op. cit., para 82, p. 246.

8. Ibid., para 83, p. 248.

9. Ut supra, pp. 34-35 and Hardayal Singh, op. cit., p. 249.

of the *Maharaja*. They had the hereditary privilege of *dohri tazim* and *hath-ka-kurub*. The *Maharaja* used to stand both at the time of their arrival and departure in the *Darbar*. When a *tazimi sardar* placed his sword and bowed before the *Maharaja* and touched the hem of his garment as a mark of fealty, the latter placed his hands on the *sardar's* shoulders and drew it back to his chest to show his trust. These tokens of trust and affection were called *bahn-pasava* and *hath-ka-kurub*. There were eight *sirayats* at the beginning of the nineteenth century. By the end of the century their number increased to twelve. They were all *Rathores* and were regarded superior to the rest. They and their ladies had the privilege of wearing gold anklets. Nobles other than *sirayats* were graded and subgraded in proportion to the honours that were conferred upon them for their gratitude and service. They were graded in single and double *tazims* with and without *bahn-pasava* and *hath-ka-kurub*.<sup>10</sup> The estate of a *jagirdar* enjoying some *tazim* was called *thikana*.

*Mutsaddis*, which literally means inferiors and servers, constituted the cadres of civil service including consultants, assistants, administrative subordinates and professional executives. They aided the *Maharaja* in administering the state and controlling and coordinating its constituent feudals. They were also granted *jagirs* and the honour of wearing gold for distinguished service. *Mutsaddi jagirs* were subject to the law of gavelkind, i. e. equal division among successors and co-sharers.<sup>11</sup> The *Mutsaddis* were a power to be reckoned with till the end of the nineteenth century. As the influence of the paramount power became effective, and it lent to the state the services of competent officers, the local talent was denied higher positions and it went into the background. Explaining to Sutherland the power and position of the *Maharaja* and his nobles and *Mutsaddis*, Man Singh compared the chief to the pole of a single pole tent, the nobles to tent pegs and the *Mutsaddis* to the malletmen who kept the pegs erect.<sup>12</sup>

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10. (i) Tod, op. cit., Vol. II, pp. 101-02.

(ii) Erskine, op. cit., Vol. III B, p. 40.

(iii) Vyas, op. cit., pp. 171-75.

11. (i) Ut supra, pp. 73-74.

(ii) Trivedi Harishchandra, *Mehta Vijai Singh*, pp. 76, 84 and 120-21.

(iii) Devra, G.S.L., *Bureaucracy in Rajasthan*, pp. XV-XX.

12. For. Pol. May 7, 1846 No. 608 (Sutherland's review of Jodhpur affairs).

## Castes & Customs

The population of Marwar, estimated at two million by James Tod<sup>13</sup>, was in those days classified into castes of varying orders. *Brahmans*, *Rajputs* and *Mahajans* constituted the higher castes among the Hindus and *Sheikhs*, *Saiyyads* and *Sipahis* among the Muslims. The *Brahmans*, who constituted the priestly order, enjoyed ritualistic status, which had been bestowed upon them by the scriptures and sustained by tradition. But many of them took to money-lending, mercantile jobs and agriculture. The principal divisions of the *Brahmans* were - *Shrimali*, *Pushkarna*, *Sanchora*, *Nandwana Bohra*, *Chheniyat*, *Purohit* and *Paliwal*.<sup>14</sup>

The *Rajputs* formed one-eleventh of the population. They were brave and warlike and proud of their ancestral blood. The extent of their dominion over land determined their social superiority. Hypergamy was another salient feature of the social life of the *Rajputs*. They wanted matches for their daughters from families of higher social status. This custom made marriages difficult and was responsible for the evil of female infanticide. The practice of *sati* also lingered on till the third quarter of the nineteenth century among the *Rajputs*. The *Rajputs* were non-vegetarians and also used to opium and liquor. They followed the *Shakti* cult and worshipped Nagnaichi, Chamunda, Jogmaya, Amba, etc. as goddesses. Their women lived secluded lives.<sup>15</sup>

The *Rathore Rajputs* took the first place as the ruling class. The other *Rajput* septs were *Bhatis*, *Deoras*, *Kuchhawahas*, *Panwars*, *Solankis*, etc. The *Rajputs*, who had adopted *Islam* during the medieval times, were called *Kyamkhanis* and *Sindhi Sipahis*. They scarcely differed in their customs and manners from the *Rajputs*.<sup>16</sup>

13. (i) Tod, op. cit., p. 178.

(ii) The census of Marwar carried out in 1881 returned a population of 17,57,618 souls. These figures were regarded below the mark for the operations being a novelty were misunderstood and opposed by the people. A population of 25,28,178 was recorded during the census of 1891. Better methods of enumeration, absence of famines and introduction of railways and effective administration led to this increase. As a result of the outbreak of famines culminating in the terrible *chhappana* the population of Marwar was reduced to 19,35,565 in 1901. The census operations of 1911 and 1921 recorded it as 20,57,553 and 18,41,642 respectively.

(iii) Erskine, op. cit., p. 75 and Reu, op. cit., Vol. II, pp. 514 and 534.

14. (i) Deviprasad, Munshi, *Census Report of Marwar* (1891), p. 56-58.

(ii) Erskine, op. cit., Vol. III A, p. 84.

15. (i) Deviprasad, op. cit., p. 17.

(ii) Erskine, op. cit., Vol. III A, p. 85.

16. (i) Sherring, op. cit., p. 86.

(ii) Deviprasad, op. cit., pp. 18, 27 and 37.

The landless *Rajputs*, who lagged behind in the march of civilization, were called *Natrayat Rajputs*. They were considered inferior in status. Widows could remarry among them and their women did not observe *purdah*. They went to fetch water and supply meals to their husbands in the fields.<sup>17</sup>

The *Charans* constituted a body of faithful companions of the *Rajputs*. They composed poems in praise of the heroic deeds of the *Rajputs*, and thus inspired them with courage and fortitude. They also guarded the mansions of their patrons, gave protection to their women and children during emergency and also acted as tutors for the young ones. In return land gifts and honours were conferred upon them. The *Charans*, who could not devote themselves to intellectual pursuits, took to trade. They also protected merchants and travellers passing through desolate regions and forests.<sup>18</sup> Both among the *Rajputs* and the *Charans* the bride and the bridegroom publicly took opium on the occasion of their betrothal.<sup>19</sup>

The *Mahajans* were mainly engaged in trade and agriculture. Their social status was determined by their occupations and wealth. They formed nearly nine per cent of the population and their principal castes were *Oswal*, *Maheshwari*, *Agrawal*, *Saraogi* and *Porwal*. The *Oswals* occupied a pre-eminent position. Ninety eight per cent of the *Oswals* were originally *Rajputs* who had adopted *Jainism*. Some of the *Oswals* were in the service of the *Darbar* and *jagir* estates. They considered themselves superior to traders. Their women observed *purdah*. *Oswals* and other *Mahajans* of Marwar were found engaged in trade all over India.<sup>20</sup>

The peasantry was the most numerous. *Jats* were the most predominant in this division and they constituted eleven per cent of the population. Socially, they were divided into three sub-castes (i) *Asli* (pure) (ii) Joint *Rajput-Jat* stock and (iii) *Anjana* (inferior). The *Jats* stood at the head of the widow marrying castes. *Polygamy* was allowed, but a *Jat* could not marry his wife's sister during her life time. Divorce was also permissible among them and an announcement of the divorce in the presence of the caste was deemed

17. Deviprasad, op. cit., pp. 23 and 28.

18. (i) Tod, op. cit., Vol. I, p. 555 and Vol. II, p. 125.

(ii) Erskine, op. cit., Vol. III A, p. 96.

(iii) Qanungo, K.R., *Studies in Rajput History*, p. 39.

(iv) Vyas, *The Position of the Churans*, Rajhisco, Vol. XI, pp. 84-88.

19. Sherring, op. cit., pp. 24 and 53.

20. (i) *Ibid.*, pp. 50-51.

(ii) Deviprasad, op. cit., pp. 126-35.

(iii) Erskine, op. cit., Vol. III A, pp. 86-87.

enough to formalise it. Till the turn of the twentieth century *Jats* were vegetarians, but they had no categorical objection to a non-vegetarian diet. They worshipped the plough and the cow, and were served by *Chheniyat Brahmins*.

*Jats* were strong and hardworking. Women and children assisted them in their fields. A village inhabited by *Jats* was considered to be a flourishing one as illustrated by the saying-*Jate Jat Vate Tihattha*. *Jats* had supreme *panchayat* organisations at Dangawas and Kalu in *pargana* Merta, at Jhanwar in Jodhpur and Inana and Khiyala in Nagaur. Most of the *Jats* wore round the neck a silver amulet depicting Tejaji on horse back with his sword drawn and a snake biting him on the tongue.<sup>21</sup>

The other peasant castes were *Sirvi*, *Rebari*, *Bisnoi*, *Kalbi*, *Mali*, etc. The *Sirvis* were like the *Jats* mainly agriculturists, but the *Bisnois* were both agriculturists and camel and sheep breeders. The *Bisnois* were originally *Jats*. Their customs and practices were the outcome of composite Hindu-Muslim culture. They abstained from smoking, opium and other intoxicating drugs. The *Bisnois* shaved the head, but maintained the beard. Green trees were not felled by them. They buried the dead. They took neither food nor water from any other caste and had their own priests.<sup>22</sup>

The *Kalbis* sprang from the combination of *Rajputs* with *Brahman* women of Gujarat. The *Kalbi* women abstained from meat and liquor and did not dine with their husbands.<sup>23</sup> The *Malis* were horticulturists who grew vegetables, fruit and flowers. They mostly lived in the vicinity of towns.<sup>24</sup> Subsequently, they took to stone industry and some of them undertook construction of buildings, tanks and such other public works. The settled peasantry never relished visits of pastoral and other nomads with herds of cattle which caused destruction of standing crops and exhaustion of grazing resources and water supply.

The artisans and other useful communities also comprised one-fourth of the population and included the castes of carpenters, goldsmiths, brass and coppersmiths, cobb'ers, dyers, weavers, tailors, barbers, etc. These castes enjoyed a monopoly of their industry. They belonged to both the Hindus and the Muslims and had their separate castes. The *Suthars* mainly made and repaired

21. (i) Deviprasad, op. cit., pp. 34-35.

(ii) Erskine, op. cit., Vol. III A, 83.

22. (i) Deviprasad, op. cit., pp. 41-42.

(ii) Erskine, op. cit., Vol. III A, pp. 88-91.

23. Deviprasad, op. cit., p. 41.

24. Ibid., p. 40.

wooden agricultural implements and domestic equipments.<sup>25</sup> The *Sonis* manufactured ornaments of gold and silver. They could not strike the *toran* from horseback. The *Sonis* were divided into two sub-castes, *Med* and *Bamania*, who did not dine together and inter-marry.<sup>26</sup> The *Kumhars* were potters, brick burners and water suppliers.<sup>27</sup> *Mochis* were shoemakers, and *Balais*, workers in leather.<sup>28</sup> Barbers, who cut and dressed hair, played an important role as match makers and attendants and in other social matters as well.<sup>29</sup> *Chakars* were illegitimate offsprings of *Rajputs* on whom they attended as domestic servants.<sup>30</sup> *Mewati*, *Mer*, *Mia*, *Bhil* and *Girasias* constituted forest and hill tribes.<sup>31</sup> Musicians, ballad reciters, actors, mimes, dancers, singers, fakirs and scavengers also constituted their own exclusive castes. They were divided and subdivided into septs and were bound by rigid rules against interdining and inter-marriage.<sup>32</sup> Besides their traditional artisanship, they also worked on land.

The Muslims did not form a homogeneous community held together by the Islamic teaching of universal brotherhood. They were also a composite community divided into castes like the Hindus. The *Sheikhs*, the *Saiyyads* and the *Qazis* were at the top. They were men of piety and devotion known after their ancestors. Next to them were the *Kyanikhanis* and *Sindhi Sipahis* mentioned earlier. They claimed superiority over all other converts to Islam. The rest of the Muslim population was divided into occupational castes, the chief of which were *Telis* (oil producers), *Silawats* (stone cutters), *Churigars* (bangle makers), *Khairadis* (wood carvers), *Lohars* (ironsmiths), *Bhishtis* (water carriers), *Kunjaras* (fruit sellers), *Rangrez* (dyers), *Chinpas* (cloth printers), *Mochis* (cobblers), etc. These Muslim castes retained the customs, practices and ideas of their Hindu counterparts. They commanded the services of both the Hindu and the Muslim priests.<sup>33</sup>

Caste exclusiveness was thus the central feature of the social structure of Marwar. People were divided and their place in the social scale was fixed. Life and culture of the upper classes,

25. Erskine, op. cit., Vol. III A, p. 9.

26. Deviprasad, op. cit., p. 140.

27. Erskine, op. cit., Vol. III A, p. 89.

28. Deviprasad, op. cit., pp. 87-88.

29. Ibid., p. 142.

30. Erskine, op. cit., Vol. III A, p. 9.

31. Deviprasad, op. cit., p. 43.

32. Ibid., pp. 119-25.

33. (i) Sherring, op. cit., pp. 85-88.

(ii) Erskine, op. cit., Vol. III A, p. 92.

who formed a small minority, was different from that of the lower classes. Caste rules were rigid. They were enforced by caste councils and *panchayats* on pain of fine and expulsion. Inter-caste marriages and interdining among members of different castes were forbidden. Muslims were also divided by considerations of caste, race and status. Hindu converts to Islam had carried their castes into the new religion. It is interesting to note that cordial relations existed between the Hindus and the Muslims. They were assimilative rather than divisive. The Hindus and the Muslims co-operated with each other in social and cultural affairs. Hindus worshipped Muslim saints and Muslims showed veneration for Hindu gods and saints. The Muslims shared the joys of the Hindus on festive occasions of *Dussehra*, *Diwali*, *Holi* and *Rakshabandhan* and the Hindus greeted the Muslims on occasions of *Id*.

### Nomenclature

Among the higher castes names of men were composite. The first part was constituted by terms denoting power and victory (*Ajai, Bahadur, Kesri, Pahad, Sher, Takhat, Vijai*, etc.) hope and happiness (*Nirakh, Santosh, Sukh, Umed*, etc.) and beauty and wealth (*Chand, Gulab, Heera, Jawahar, Lal, Moti*, etc.). The first names were also given after gods and goddesses like *Ganesh, Ram, Rishabh, Shiv, Alla, Ai, Devi*, etc. The second part usually indicated the caste to which the person belonged. Thus, *Das, Dutta, Prasad* and *Narayan*, among *Brahmans*; *Dan* among *Charans*, *Chand, Mal* and *Raj* among *Mahajans* and *Shah, Bux* and *Mohammad* among *Muslims* constituted the second part of the name. A man's caste, clan, *gotra*, occupation or distinction (*Joshi, Purohit, Shah, Lodha, Saiyyad, Vaidya*, etc.) was prefixed.<sup>34</sup>

It is interesting that only the names of *Rajputs* could be formed by using Singh in the second part. *Diwan* Mehta Vijai Singh was named as *Vijaimal* in all communications from the *Darbar*.<sup>35</sup> The lower castes had usually one name which ended in the letter o. A few typical names were *Dhanno, Kheto, Parbudo, Rawatio*, etc. Names of women were also not composite. They were named after some goddess, heroine or something beautiful, fragrant, delightful or valuable.<sup>36</sup>

### Traditions and Practices

The betrothal and marriage ceremonies differed widely among different castes and tribes. Among *Rajputs* and *Charans* the

34. Erskine, op. cit., Vol. III A, pp. 97-98.

35. Trivedi, op. cit., pp. 84, 85, 94 and 120-21.

36. Erskine, op. cit., Vol. III A, p. 98.



bride and the bridegroom took opium together in the presence of their kinsmen. Among *Saraswat Brahmans* the bride's father placed a ring on the bridegroom's finger. Among most other *Brahmans* the girl's father made presents of fruit, sugar, cocoanuts, etc. A garland of flowers and a ring was sent from the bridegroom's family to the bride among the *Oswals*. The betrothal was confirmed among other *Mahajans* by the gift of sugar and cocoanut. This system was in vogue among most of the castes. At the time of wedding the bridegroom took hold of the bride's hand. They went round a fire four times. Three times the bride followed the bridegroom, and in the fourth round the bride led him. Abduction of women was also practised among *Rajputs* till the end of the nineteenth century.<sup>37</sup>

Social code forbade a woman to utter the name of her husband and his elders. They were referred to in terms of her relation with them. Since polygamy was in vogue, women did not change their surnames after their father's family or sept for being distinguished from one another. *Rajput* and *Mutsaddi* women observed *purdah*. They did not move out in day time. Where caste did not permit remarriage of widows, they lived a simple life eschewing all pleasures and comforts.

Men did not move out bareheaded. Women had to trudge barefooted in the presence of known men. Nobody could enter forts and castles bareheaded and riding. On occasions of death men shaved their heads and beards as a mark of mourning. When the *Maharaja* passed away, this custom was adhered to all over the state. In case of the death of a *jagirdar*, the tradition was adhered to in his estate.

### Social Reform

The social evils of polygamy, seclusion of women and prohibition of widow remarriage had long stood in the way of the abolition of the cruel custom of *sati*. Women burnt themselves alive with the dead bodies of their husbands for want of socio-economic security. Often they were forced upon the funeral pyres in the name of religious merit, social glory and family honour.<sup>38</sup> Slave girls and concubines followed suit. At times a mother also burnt herself on her son's pyre.<sup>39</sup>

37. Sherring, op. cit., pp. 16-17.

38. Bisnoi, Brijlal, *Sati Suppression in Rajput States, Some Aspects of Socio-Economic History of Rajasthan*, pp. 81-82.

39. (i) Ibid., p. 83.

(ii) Vyas, *Social Changes in Rajasthan*, SASEHR, loc. cit., pp. 134-35.

Under the governor-generalship of William Bentinck, *sati* had been declared a criminal offence in British India in 1829 in the teeth of the opposition of the orthodox elements and vested interests. But little was done for almost two decades for its abolition in the princely states of Rajasthan even when the co-operation of the rulers was sought by the paramount power. One of the *ranis* of Man Singh of Marwar committed *sati* with four concubines and a slave girl in 1843.<sup>40</sup> His successor also adopted in the beginning an evasive attitude towards abolition of this cruel custom in spite of the remonstrances of the paramount power. *Sati* was declared merely a compoundable offence in 1847 in Marwar.<sup>41</sup> This mockery could not be endured for long. In 1852, *sati* was committed just in front of the *Maharaja's* palace. The Political Agent refused to attend the *Dussehra Darbar* as a mark of protest. His firm attitude forced Takhat Singh to ban *sati* in the whole of Marwar.<sup>42</sup> But violation of the proclamation was yet frequent. When Takhat Singh died, his *ranis* and concubines were kept in locked rooms lest they should burn themselves alive with the corpse of their husband.<sup>43</sup> Unlike *sati* the evil of killing baby girls lacked religious support, real or fancied. It was a social evil, nothing more nothing less, and was prevalent most among common *Rajputs*, whose means of livelihood were meagre and limited. They could not make handsome gifts to *Charans* and *Bhats* on the occasion of the marriage of their daughters nor give them a rich dowry and cut down conventional festivities, which led to extravagance and indebtedness. This factor alone forced the common *Rajputs* to commit the inhuman crime. Cases of female infanticide were frequent in Marwar.<sup>44</sup> The ruling chiefs and nobles were persuaded by the political agents all over Rajasthan to put an end to this cruel practice by royal proclamation.<sup>45</sup> Nuptial gifts were also regulated to ease the situation.<sup>46</sup>

The inhuman custom of *samadhi*, a sort of self sacrifice, was also prohibited in all the states of Rajasthan under the influence of the paramount power. In 1861, the land owner, was held responsible and liable to severe punishment for the crime

40. For. Pol. Sept. 30, 1843 No. 62 (Ludlow to Sutherland d. Sept. 6).

41. For. Pol. Feb. 11, 1848 No. 75 and May 19, 1849 No. 45-46.

42. For. Pol. Jan. 7, 1853 No. 158 and April 22, 1853 No. 252.

43. Pr. 261 (PA to AGG No. 17-3 p. d. Feb. 13, 1873) in For. Pol. A March, 1873 No. 265-73.

44. (i) For. Pol. Dec. 28, 1848 No. 295.

(ii) Sherring, op. cit., p. 16.

45. Marwar Precis, p. 140.

46. Reu, *Glorious of Marwar and Glorious Rathores*, p. 203.

committed in his estate.<sup>74</sup> It has already been pointed out earlier that children, born of poor parents in Uttar Pradesh and Malwa, were bought and sold in Rajasthan. Pachpadra was a centre of trafficking in children in Marwar.<sup>48</sup> Proclamations interdicting this unsocial practice were made in 1844 and 1848, but it persisted. One of the acts of the paramount power in 1868 was to prohibit sale of children.<sup>49</sup> With the spread of education and development of railways and the establishment of firm administration change in the outlook of the people went a long way in wiping out the cruel practices at the turn of the century.

Polygamy, child-marriage, *purdah*, prohibition of widow remarriage, death dinners, extravagance in marriage festivities, etc. were still the salient features of social life in Rajasthan. The *Arya Samaj*, which was founded in 1875 by Swami Dayanand Saraswati, appealed both to the classes and the masses to do away with social evils. The hectic activities of the swami and his *samaj* alarmed the British government. If it failed to provide leadership for social reform, the indigenous body, which had not supported western ways of life, might gain ground. At this very time some wise and farsighted nobles from different states felt that social reforms could be successfully introduced only by persuasion and understanding. In consequence, the *Walterkrit Rajput Hitkarini Sabha* was constituted in 1888 with its headquarters at Ajmer and branches in all the states of Rajasthan<sup>50</sup>. The Agent to the Governor-General presided over its annual sessions. A number of resolutions were adopted by it to reform the institution of marriage and do away with glaring social abuses.

Marriage festivities were regulated in accordance with the income of the bride's father. In the case of the marriage of a *thakur* or his eldest son it was limited to one-fourth of the annual income provided it exceeded twenty thousand rupees, to one-third if it was above ten thousand rupees and below twenty thousand, to one-half, if it was at least one thousand rupees and two-thirds in the remaining cases. At the betrothal ceremony called *Teka* a

47. (i) For. Pol. Sept. 17, 1849 No. 174 (Malcolm to Low d. Sept. 4).

(ii) For. Gen. A Dec. 1861 No. 79-83.

48. (i) For. Gen. June 1862 No. 54-56 (Lawrence Report on slavery d. May 12).

(ii) Vashishtha, V.K., *Rajputana Agency* (1832-58), pp. 235-36

49. (i) Ut supra, p. 147.

(ii) Vashishtha, op. cit., 236-37.

50. (i) For. Int. July 1888 No. 19-24 (AGG to Secy. For. d. March 23).

(ii) For. Pol. June 1895 No. 289-91 (Presidential Address).

(iii) Reu, op. cit., Vol. II, p. 610.

present beyond one gold *mohar* by the bride's father was forbidden. The tradition of demanding a price for the girl, called *Reet*, from the bridegroom's father was condemned. The size of a marriage party together with the number of attendants was also fixed on the basis of the income of the bride's father. Nuptial gifts called *Tyag* to *Charans*, *Bhats* and *Dholis* were made payable only by the bridegroom's father and the gifts could not exceed nine per cent of his annual income in the first marriage of the eldest son and one per cent in that of other sons and brothers. Minimum age of marriage for both boys and girls was fixed at eighteen and fourteen respectively. Remarriage of a middle-aged widower having a son was prohibited. So also no man could go in for another marriage during the life time of his first wife. The custom of keeping concubines was also looked down upon. Scales regulating expenses on funeral rites and death dinners were also fixed in proportion to the income.<sup>51</sup>

A local committee was formed in Jodhpur for the enforcement of these resolutions. They were given wide publicity. Marriages were registered with the *sabha*. It was enjoined upon *Brahmans*, *Mahajans* and other castes that they should also regulate their marriage and death expenditure.<sup>52</sup> The *Rajpurohits* of Marwar framed regulations for their community in 1894.<sup>53</sup> *Oswal*, *Brahman*, *Mali* and other communities followed suit. The smaller communities of goldsmiths, carpenters and barbers also framed rules for themselves in 1897.<sup>54</sup> It is interesting to note that the Marwar *Darbar* discouraged and restricted death dinners among all its subjects in 1893.<sup>55</sup> Thus reforms considered impracticable a few decades earlier slowly and steadily gained ground. If *suti* had been wiped out at the close of the nineteenth century, the close of the first quarter of the twentieth was marked by the disappearance of polygamy. Maharaja Umed Singh had only one *rani* and no *pasban* or *pardaet* was admitted to his harem. *Sardars* and *Mutsaddis* followed his example. Where royal proclamations of the mid-nineteenth century for social reforms had proved inadequate, the *sabha* under the patronage of the paramount power could win the support of all interested elements.

51. Pr. 19 (AGG to Secy. For. No. 277-C d. March 23) in For. Int. A July, 1888 No. 19-24.

52. *Reu*, *cit.*, Vol. I I, p. 610.

53. Proceedings of the eighth annual meeting of the *Walterkrit Rajput Hitkarini Sabha*.

54. (i) For. Int. A April 1891 No. 252-54 (Sabha's annual report for 1890).

(ii) For. Int. B Sept. 1899 No. 168-69 (Sabha's annual report for 1898).

55. For. Int. B June 1894 No. 389-91 (Sabha's annual report for 1893).

While these reforms were carried out through the agency of the *Walterkrit Rajput Hitkarni Sabha*, a more direct influence was exercised by the paramount power for the abolition of domestic servitude. In the days of old when nobles went frequently on active service, they left behind domestic servants for the protection and service of their families. As time rolled on, they became hereditary and were known as *bandas*, *chakars*, *darogas* or *golas*. They rendered devoted service to their masters who supported them from cradle to grave. All expenses connected with their birth, upbringing, marriage, death, etc. were borne by them. Women slaves were given in dowry to the brides for serving them as their personal attendants. Children, who were bought, were admitted to this class of domestic servants. Their children took pride in being born and brought up in their master's mansions.<sup>56</sup> This institution of domestic service was grossly misused in later years and disputes often arose. In 1916, it was laid down that *darogas* were at the disposal of their masters and the latter could give their daughters in dowry as well.<sup>57</sup> A few years later a *jagirdar* sought legal remedy against one of his *darogas* who had taken service elsewhere. The Marwar *Darbar* recognised that the legal enforcement of such claims was very doubtful. The *jagirdar* had to withdraw the case.<sup>58</sup> Subsequently, the League of Nations prohibited traffic in slaves. The Marwar *Darbar* had to rescind the order of 1916, and *darogas* became free men.<sup>59</sup>

### Social Change

A silent but more effective influence on urban society was felt as a result of contact with European officers and their ways of living, introduction of railways, impact of modern education and World War I. The bonds of orthodoxy got loosened and people began questioning old beliefs. They became comparatively more broadminded and the rigidity of the caste system lessened. Crockery and aluminium wares found their way into the kitchen. Salad, bread and potatoes were the first eatables to be adopted. Tea, which was a rarity and used only during illness, became a common

56. Vyas, *Social changes in Rajasthan*, SASEHR, loc. cit., 136-37.

57. (i) Marwar Gazette, Vol. 51, For. 1 d. Dec. 16, 1916, p. 70.

(ii) Gehlot, op. cit., p. 392.

58. RSAJ, Jodhpur State Document No. 24 Grievances (a) Political IV - Political and Judicial Member, State Council to RWRS d. Feb. 24, 1926.

59. (i) Ibid.

(ii) Marwar Prantia Raona Rajput Sabha-ki-Niyamavali, Private Secy. to Maharaja to Secy. Raona Rajput Mahasabha, Ajmer d. June 11, 1926 and Order No. 1939 d. April 21, 1926 from the Political and Judicial Member enclosed with it.

drink after the World War. But tomatoes known as *Lal Baingan* (red brinjals) did not still find favour with the people. *Gadda* and *Takia* gave place to tables and chairs in public offices and drawing rooms of the well-to-do.

Till the reign of Jaswant Singh II men wore beards and moustaches which were trained to hold their desired position by the use of *jadia* and *muchhpatti*.<sup>60</sup> During the last decade of the nineteenth century beard shaving became a common fashion. *Chundidar Pag*, *Angarkha* and *Dhoti* were replaced by *Safa*, *Sherwan* and *Chudidar Payjama* among the elite classes. The common man continued to wear the traditional garments, *Potia*, (covering of the head), *Bandia Angarkha* (full sleeved close fitting vest) and *Dhoti* (loin cloth). The well-to-do wore a finished loom fabric with a coloured border as *Dhoti*. Women wore *Ghagra* (skirt), *Kanchli* (half-sleeved bodice) and an *Orna* (a sheet or veil taken over the head and round the body). A very useful article of apparel known as Jodhpur breeches came into vogue. It was a sort of combination of riding breeches and military overalls of the British and the Indian *Chudidar Payjama*.<sup>61</sup> Closed collar coats, caps and hats also came into fashion during the post-war period. Woollens got introduced along with cotton stuffed coats and jackets. Fine cloth, muslin, china-silk, satin, scented oils and soap made their way into families. Wall clocks were installed at railway and police stations and important government offices. Fashionable gentlemen kept pocket and wrist watches. Cricket and polo became very popular games and Jodhpur teams made name in both of them. Football and tennis were also played. Kite-flying was enjoyed by both children and adults. Riding was popular among those who could afford to keep a horse. Dance, music, cards and chess were the other means of entertainment. The traditional outdoor games were tip-cat, hide and seek, blind man's buff, etc.<sup>62</sup>

This change in tastes and ways of living was carried to the villages by government and railway employees, soldiers and businessmen who carried on trade in British India. The religious beliefs of the people were not at all affected, and the Christian population remained almost stationary.

60. Erskine, op. cit., Vol. III A, p. 94.

61. Ibid., pp. 94-95.

62. Ibid., pp. 96-97.

## Chapter X

### THE OTHER SIDE OF THE SHIELD

A study of the preceding chapters might lead one to the conclusion that Marwar benefited greatly under British influence. Whenever the *Raj* interests and the interests of the paramount government went together, the latter readily initiated, supported and promoted schemes of good administration. It also helped the *Raj* in the solution of problems, where its action was likely to strengthen its power and popularity, even though it had no direct concern in them. But when matters concerning the security of the empire or the economic interests of the British were involved, the paramount power drove a hard bargain, and in doing so, never hesitated to sacrifice the interests of the *Raj*, which, as a consequence, had to suffer both directly and indirectly on a number of occasions. It had to acquiesce in territorial concessions, agree to inequitable distribution of imperial burdens and suffer economic losses with as good grace as it could muster.

#### Loss of Umarkote and Marwar-Merwara

When Jaswant Singh II mounted the *gaddi* of Marwar, the districts of Malani and Umarkote and twenty one villages of Marwar-Merwara were under British occupation and administration. The police administration of Jalore *pargana* was also under the British. It was, however, restored to Marwar *Darbar* the following year, i.e. 1874. The district of Malani was also restored in two instalments in 1891 and 1898.<sup>1</sup> But the district of Umarkote and the villages of Marwar-Merwara remained under the administration of the British.

The district of Umarkote had, with slight intermissions, been under the sway of the *Rathore* rulers of Marwar up to the eighteenth century. After two unsuccessful attempts to occupy it, the Talpura Mirs of Sindh recognised the fort and district of Umarkote as a possession of the *Maharaja* by a treaty in 1783. But taking advantage of the disturbed condition of Marwar they captured it in 1813.

Man Singh contemplated steps to regain the district. Meantime, negotiations between him and the British East India Company for a treaty affected the turn of events. The British government recognised the right of the Jodhpur *Darbar* to regain it by resort to

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1. Ut supra, pp. 19-20, 35 and 67-68.

military action if peaceful means failed.<sup>2</sup> Chaos and confusion, that prevailed in Sindh, culminated in the intervention of the British government and its ultimate annexation by it in 1843. On the conclusion of the Sindh wars, the British Government recognised the claim of Marwar to the Umarkote territory and promised to restore it.<sup>3</sup> But as the fort of Umarkote then formed a valuable frontier outpost commanding the passes of the desert between Sindh, Hyderabad and Barmer, and as the district could not be controlled by Jodhpur in the then turbulent state of the country, the British government retained the fort in its possession for political and military reasons. Marwar *Darbar* was compelled to accept money compensation in the shape of a remission of ten thousand rupees in its tribute.<sup>4</sup> Since that day Umarkote was held in trust by the British government. While surrendering Umarkote to the British Takhat Singh gave vent to his feelings in the following pathetic words.<sup>5</sup> :

‘The day, on which Umarkote is given to me  
will be a day of great rejoicing’.

This feeling was uppermost in the heart of every ruler of Marwar since that date. But that day of rejoicing never arrived.

By the beginning of the twentieth century conditions had altered materially. Sindh was no longer the British frontier and the importance of Umarkote had disappeared. The administration of Marwar had attained a standard of efficiency, which left no doubt as to its ability and competence to control this outlying territory. But the British government did not favour the proposal to return Umarkote on the following grounds<sup>6</sup>:

- (i) The Bombay Government was opposed to the restoration.

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2. Ut supra, 12.

3. For. Pol. Oct. 7, 1843 No. 16 (Governor-General to Charles Napier d. March 15).

4. (i) For. Pol. June 26, 1847 No. 65 (Edwards, Under - secretary to Sutherland, AGG d. June 17).

(ii) Aitchison, op. cit., p. 138.

(iii) Reu, op. cit., Vol. II, pp. 443-44.

5. (i) Aitchison, op. cit., p. 138.

(ii) Reu, op. cit., Vol. II, pp. 443-44.

6. (i) For. Int. A Aug., 1916 No. 86 (Secy. For. to AGG No 1762-1 Ad. d. Aug., 18).

(ii) Pr. 14 (Regent to RWRS No. 2 d. Jan. 4, 1919) in Rajputana Agency Record File No. 19 (Infringement of Treaty Rights).

(iii) Foreign File No. 96 P. of 1928, Government of India.



- (ii) The inhabitants were reluctant to be transferred from the British rule to that of a princely state.
- (iii) It would create an awkward precedent.

These grounds were neither just nor cogent. They were lame excuses to keep the territory as direct British Indian possession. The net result of this policy was the separation of Umarkote from its ancestral land and its integration into Pakistan as part of Sindh province.

### Marwar-Merwara Villages

As already pointed out, Marwar-Merwara consisting of twenty-one villages had been since 1843 under the occupation of the British without any definite agreement.<sup>7</sup> An attempt was made in 1847 by the political officers of the crown to negotiate for its permanent cession; but Lord Dalhousie declined to take any decisive step unless definite proposals about Mewar-Merwara were made. The *Maharana* of Udaipur pressed time and again for the restoration of Mewar-Merwara, which was a much larger territory. Had his claim, which the British recognised, been honoured, the government would have suffered no pecuniary loss and freed itself from a difficult charge. But Col. Sutherland and Col. Dixon had recorded very strong notes against such a move. It might excite rebellion. The governing capacities of Mewar were questionable. In 1883, the paramount power was able to conclude an agreement with Mewar for permanent retention of Mewar-Merwara by agreeing to pay it surplus revenue and recognising its *de jure* sovereignty.<sup>8</sup>

Negotiations were then undertaken with Marwar. According to the stipulations of 1843 the revenue of Marwar-Merwara was collected by the British Government. After deducting every year two thousand rupees on account of the cost of administration the balance was devoted to liquidating the debt incurred by Jodhpur prior to 1841 for the maintenance of Merwara Battallion. By March, 1884 not only was the debt cleared, but there was a balance of Rs. 8,130. The *Darbar* claimed it, but the Chief Commissioner made a counter-claim amounting to fifty one thousand rupees spent on tanks. The Marwar *Darbar* was thus by a cunning diplomacy obliged and tempted to yield to the British pressure for perma-

7. Ut supra, p. 19-20.

8. (i) For. Sec. Des. from Government of India to the Secretary of State for India No. 2 d. Jan. 8, 1884.

(ii) Aitchison, op. cit., Vol. III, pp. 42-45 and p. 481.

ment cession of Marwar-Merwara to the paramount power on the following conditions<sup>9</sup> :

- (i) The de jure sovereignty of the Marwar *Darbar* over this area would be recognised.
- (ii) The surplus balance claimed by Marwar would be paid to it.
- (iii) The *Darbar* would receive three thousand rupees on account of surplus revenue irrespective of what was realised.
- (iv) The *Darbar* would also be paid forty per cent of the net surplus revenue in the form of royalty.

This cession of territory, without doubt, constituted a territorial loss to Marwar and was a grievance, which it expected the paramount power to redress.<sup>10</sup>

#### Inequitable distribution of Imperial burden

Under article 8 of the treaty of 1818 the Marwar *Darbar* was required to supply on demand a force of fifteen hundred horse to the paramount power.<sup>11</sup> By the agreement of 1835 it was forced to make an annual payment of one lac and fifteen thousand rupees in lieu of the employment of state troops.<sup>12</sup> This money was originally devoted to the upkeep of a military force known as the Jodhpur Legion consisting of three troops of cavalry and eight companies of infantry, to which three companies of Bhils were added in 1841. After the uprising of 1857 the Legion was replaced by the Erinpura Irregular Force composed of one squadron of one hundred sixty four cavaliers and eight companies of seven hundred twelve footmen.

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- 9. (i) For. Int. Jan., 1895 No. 241-50.
  - (ii) For. Int. Aug., 1885 No. 22-35.
  - (iii) Pr. 24 (Musahib Ala to RWRS No. 566 d. May 1), in For. Int. A August, 1884.
  - (iv) Pr. 3 (Governor-General to Maharaja d. Sept., 2) in Oct., 1885 No. 1-6.
  - (v) Aitchison, op. cit., p. 120 and p. 168.
  - 10. The area was retroceded by the paramount power with effect from April 1, 1938.
    - (i) MAR (1937-38), Chap. 1, para 14, p. 5.
    - (ii) RSAJ, Mehkma Khas Records - Federation of India.
    - (iii) Rajasthan Ajmer District Gazetteer (March, 1966), Chap. II, p. 92.
  - 11. (i) Ut supra, p. 11.
  - (ii) Annexure 1 - Article (8).
  - 12. (i) Ut supra, p. 18.
  - (ii) Annexure 2.

From 1870 to 1881 the commandant of this force was in political charge of Sirohi, and detachments were on several occasions used to assist the police in patrolling disturbed tracts and arresting dacoits. In 1895, the strength of the squadron had been reduced from one hundred sixty four to one hundred cavaliers and the charge of the force was transferred from the Foreign Department of the Government of India to the Commander-in-chief. In 1903, it was renamed the 43rd Erinpura Regiment.<sup>13</sup>

In the meanwhile, in response to the appeal from the paramount power the *Darbar* had raised two troops of cavalry for the defence of the empire. They soon attained remarkable efficiency in discipline and in mobility and also earned reputation in the defence of the empire.<sup>14</sup> The *Darbar* had to spend five lacs of rupees every year for their maintenance.<sup>15</sup>

When it was proposed in 1912 that the mounted portion of the Erinpura Regiment be disbanded, the *Darbar* pointed out that by the constitution of the reputed cavalry troops, the spirit of article 8 of the treaty of 1818 had been amply fulfilled and, therefore, it should be freed from the liability of the annual military contribution of one lac and fifteen thousand rupees.<sup>16</sup> Consequent upon the outbreak of the war, the question was deferred.

Subsequently, the Erinpura Regiment was disbanded and only a small local force of one hundred men was retained in its place. On the opposite side, the annual cost of the Jodhpur Imperial Service Troops, which were being expanded into class A troops, had since the war gone up to ten lacs of rupees. Besides, the *Darbar* spent nine lacs for the upkeep of irregular forces and police required for internal security. Thus the total expenditure on the forces maintained by the *Raj* was above twenty per cent of its gross revenue. The *Darbar*, therefore, reiterated its demand for remission of the

13. (i) *A Short History of Imperial Service Troops of Native States* (Calcutta, 1903), p. 6.

(ii) Erskine, op. cit., Vol. III A – Part III (Sirohi State), Chap. VI, pp. 299-301.

(iii) RSAJ, Jodhpur State Document No. 2 B (a) – Annexure 4 (Maharaj Regent to RWRS No. 1839 d. March 27, 1913).

14. (i) Ut supra, Chap. IV, pp. 107-11

(ii) Annexure 4 (Maharaj Regent to RWRS No. 1839 d. March 27, 1913), loc. cit.

15. (i) Ibid.

(ii) MAR (1912-13), Chap. III, para 11, p. 9.

16. Annexure 4 (Maharaj Regent to RWRS No. 1839 d. March 27, 1913), loc. cit.

treaty contribution of one lac and fifteen thousand rupees on the following grounds<sup>17</sup> :

- (i) Jodhpur maintained an efficient force in accordance with the spirit of the treaty in its Imperial Service Troops.
- (ii) It had earned a creditable record during the war.
- (iii) The general state of affairs, since the treaties were drawn up, had altered.
- (iv) Every part of Marwar enjoyed undisturbed peace like the rest of India.
- (v) The state was prepared to maintain a small local force at Sumerpur near Erinpura in Jodhpur limits provided the contribution was remitted.

All these arguments fell on deaf ears. The paramount power did not give consideration to the just demand of the *Raj* and erroneously argued that it was free to utilise the whole amount for any purpose of defence. No particular object, to which the money was to be devoted, had been stipulated in the agreement of 1835.<sup>18</sup>

Raj Marwar had to bow before the will of the paramount power; but its claim was too rational and forceful to be rejected off hand. When the Mina Corps was disbanded in 1935, the British Government had to suspend the realisation of the contribution and console itself merely by reserving its right to revive the demand.<sup>19</sup>

### Economic Loss arising from Government Policy

#### Salt Treaties

The salt sources of Marwar were leased to the British Government under three distinct treaties - two of 1870 and one of 1879 with supplementary correspondence.<sup>20</sup> Under these agree-

17. Annexure 8 (Political and Judicial Member to RWRS No. 131 d. Oct. 17, 1921), loc. cit.
18. Annexure 9 (RWRS to Political & Judicial Member No. 324 d. Jan. 25, 1922), loc. cit.
19. (i) MAR (1937-38), Chap. 1, para 8, p. 2.  
(ii) RSAJ, Mehkma Khas Records - Federation of India, Instrument of Accession of Maharaja Umaid Singh with notes on Salt, Financial Statement, Umarmkote, Marwar-Merwara and Aerodromes, pp. 12 and 25 (a).
20. (i) Annexure 3(i) - Salt Agreement of 1870 in respect of Sambhar.  
(ii) Annexure 3(ii) - Salt Agreement of 1870 in respect of Nawa and Gudha.  
(iii) Annexure 3(iii) - Salt Agreement of 1879 in respect of Didwana, Pachpadra, Phalodi and Luni.  
(iv) RSAJ, Jodhpur Document No. 2 A Grievance (iv) (b) Economic (1) Salt - Annexure 3 (First Asst. to AGG. to Commissioner Northern India Salt Revenue) No. 3296 G. d. October 10, 1884.

The first two agreements were in respect of different portions of the Sambhar Lake. Both of them were similar in their provisions and the parallel sections of the treaties dealt with the same point.

ments the Marwar State leased to the supreme government the right to manufacture and sell salt at Sambhar, Nawa, Gudha, territories bordering on Sambhar Lake, Pachpadra, Didwana, Phalodi and Luni track.<sup>21</sup> It gave up her right to levy any tax, transit duty or dues of any other kind on salt manufactured or sold by the British Government within these limits or while in transit through Marwar.<sup>22</sup> Thirdly, the Jodhpur *Darbar* agreed to suppress and prevent the manufacture of salt at any other place in Marwar and also prevent import and export of salt not taxed by the British Government.<sup>23</sup>

In return, the Jodhpur received *Darbar* 9,120 quintal (24,000 maunds) of salt free of charge and 85,500 quintal (2,25,000 maunds) free of duty.<sup>24</sup> It received annually in cash Rs. 8,01,000 on account of rent for the lease of the salt sources,<sup>25</sup> and Rs. 1, 25,000 on account of compensation for suppression of minor salt works, indemnities payable to proprietors, prevention of export of other salt and exemptions from transit duty of salt covered by British passes.<sup>26</sup> Besides, the *Raj* was entitled to forty per cent of the price per maund payable on excess sales of salt beyond 6,55,500 quintal (17,25,000 maunds) annually at the salt sources

21. Art. 4 of Annexures 3(i) and 3(ii); Annexure 3(iii) - Art. 9.

22. Art. 9 of Annexures 3(i) and 3(ii); Annexure 3(iii) - Art. 2, 3 and 10.

23. Annexure 3(iii) - Art. 1.

24. (i) 7,000 maunds vide Art. 13 of Annexure 3(i).  
(ii) 7,000 maunds vide Art. 13 of Annexure 3(ii).  
(iii) 10,000 maunds vide Art. 13 of Annexure 3(iii).

24,000 maunds in all.

(iv) Annexure 3(iii) - Art. 12.  
38 kg=1 maund

25. (i) Rs. 1,25,000 vide Art. 11 of Annexure 3(i).  
(ii) Rs. 3,00,000 vide Art. 11 of Annexure 3(ii).  
(iii) Rs. 3,76,000 vide Art. 6 of Annexure 3(iii).  
as detailed below :

Pachpadra	Rs. 1,70,000
Didwana	Rs. 2,00,000
Phalodi	Rs. 4,500
Luni	Rs. 1,500

26. Annexure 3(iii) - Art. 10 as detailed under :

(i) On account of transit and export duties	Rs. 25,000
(ii) On account of preventive establishment	Rs. 50,000
(iii) On account of miscellaneous revenue and incidental emoluments.	Rs. 50,000

Rs. 1,25,000

covered by the agreements of 1870 (Sambhar, Gudha, Nawa and hamlets bordering on Sambhar Lake).<sup>27</sup>

These treaties were, in fact, commercial agreements or contracts granting leases in perpetuity to the British Government of all the salt sources of the state. Thus her position was no better nor higher than that of a lessee and the payments it made whether in cash or in kind were in consideration of the rights it obtained as a lessee from the Jodhpur State, the lessor. At a time when these agreements were concluded, Marwar was both politically and economically exhausted. Exploiting the situation, the British initiated and negotiated these treaties on their own terms.<sup>28</sup> Hence right from the very beginning they were one-sided and their operation resulted in financial loss and hardship to Marwar. Firstly, the Government of India under the terms of these treaties secured a monopoly of salt manufacture in the state.<sup>29</sup> Secondly, the *Darbar* was prohibited from working any of the salt sources even when the British Government did not work it and caused thereby loss to the state.<sup>30</sup> Thirdly, the Government of India could terminate these agreements, if it so liked; but the *Darbar* could not revoke them, even when it so chose.<sup>31</sup> Fourthly, in case the Government of India ceased to manufacture salt at any of the sources, the treaties provided for no compensation for loss of royalty to the *Darbar*, and also precluded it from working the salt sources.<sup>32</sup> In point of fact, salt sources of Luni and Phalodi were closed in 1886 and 1892, while those of Pachpadra and Didwana were partially worked.<sup>33</sup> It caused

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27. (i) Art. 13 of Annexure 3(i) and 3(ii).  
(ii) First Asst. to AGG to the Commissioner Northern Indian Salt Revenue No. 3296 d. October 24, 1884, loc. cit.
  28. Keepwiths I and II to
    - (i) For. Pol. A May, 1870 No. 413-22.
    - (ii) For. Pol. A Dec., 1870 No. 425-34.
    - (iii) For. Sec. Nov., 1875 No. 96-104.
  29. Art. 2 of Annexure 3(i) and 3(ii).
  30. Annexure 3(iii) - Art. 1.
  31. (i) Art. 2 of Annexures 3(i) and 3(ii).  
(ii) Annexure 3(iii) - Art. 15.
  32. (i) Art. 12 of Annexure 3(i) and 3(ii).  
(ii) Annexure 3(iii) - Art. 4.
  33. (i) ARS (1892-93), Western Rajputana Agency Report (No. 1 P. d. May 1, 1893 from RWRS to the First Asst. to AGG).  
(ii) Erskine, op. cit., Vol. III A, Chap. VI, p. 115 and Chap. XXII, pp. 213.  
(iii) RSAJ, Jodhpur State Document No. 2 A Grievances (b) Economic  
(1) Salt - Answer 2 to Question 9.

considerable loss to the *Darbar* on account of loss of royalty and loss in traffic on the state railway. Fifthly, the Marwar *Darbar* was precluded from charging transit duties on salt passing through the state or any other duty on its export from the state. The treaties of 1870 provided no compensation, and the compensation payable under the third treaty in respect of Phalodi, Luni, Pachpadra and Didwana was inadequate.<sup>34</sup> Sixthly, the *Darbar* had to accept the accounts presented by the salt authorities as statement of facts.<sup>35</sup> It had also no hand in its preparation or discretion in the distribution of the different items under the various heads of income and expenditure. Seventhly, though the state was legally entitled to levy duty and tax on salt sold for consumption within Marwar, yet it was not allowed to levy duty on salt different from that levied by the British Government. If it wished to do so, political pressure was exerted to make it harmonise its salt duty with that of the Government of India.<sup>36</sup>

Thus the salt agreements between the Government of India and the state were primarily in the interests of the paramount power and the *Raj* suffered loss of revenue and economic disabilities throughout this period under study and for long thereafter.

### Imperial Customs Duty

Marwar was immune in theory and law from the payment of British taxation. Yet the sea customs duties of British India were levied on goods imported into Marwar from abroad and export duty on such of its produce as the Government of India might choose. This indirect tax fell on the people of Marwar, but it did not share in the revenue thus derived. In point of fact, the taxable capacity of its subjects and their economic stability were diminished. The sea customs duty was credited wholly to the government, which collected them, and not to the country of its origin or that of destination. As such, it was transit duty; nothing more, nothing less. Marwar had on the advice of the paramount power abolished transit duties in 1866 on all goods passing through Marwar by train without breaking bulk and completely in 1890. At least, in reciprocity the paramount power should have allowed the *Raj* a share or relief from the Imperial Customs Revenue.

34. (i) Art. 9 of Annexures 3(i) and 3(ii).  
(ii) Annexure 3(iii) - Art. 10.

35. Annexure 3(iii) - Art. 11.

36. (i) ARS (1887-88), Western Rajputana Agency Report, para 17.  
(ii) RWRS to Political and Judicial Member, Jodhpur, No. 2241, d. August 15, 1923 and subsequent correspondence, loc. cit.

Under the treaty obligations Marwar paid annually one lac and eight thousand rupees on account of tribute and one lac and fifteen thousand rupees in lieu of a contingent of fifteen hundred Horse. Besides, it maintained, as already pointed out, a military force which approximate'y cost thirteen lacs of rupees every year during the post-war world. It was, therefore, manifestly unfair that any further levy in the shape of customs duty should be imposed on the state and its subjects. Even goods such as machinery, railway and bridging material required for public purposes in the state were not exempted from duty, a concession which was allowed to provincial governments in British India.<sup>37</sup>

Among other grievances the most important was that in matters of the construction of railways the sanction of the paramount power had to be obtained. Whatever be the justification for this policy, it cannot be denied that it infringed article 9 of the treaty of 1818, and discretion was not used in a just and fair way.<sup>38</sup> In order to protect the interests of the B.B. & C.I. Railway the construction of the loop line from Marwar Junction to Sanderao was given up and the Pipar-Bilara Branch Railway was not extended up to Jaitaran and Barr, and Merta City Branch towards Ajmer.<sup>39</sup>

### Growing Discontent and Political Consciousness

Next to the *Raj* grievances, we may take up the problem of growing discontent in the state and dissatisfaction with the power wielding authority. Man Singh concluded the treaty of 1818 with the British East India Company, but he was all his life anti-British both in feelings and attitude. He emitted heat in a variety of ways.<sup>40</sup>

A change came with the accession of Takhat Singh, who was adopted to the House of Marwar from the smaller principality of Ahmednagar, where he was used to consulting British political officers even in sma'l matters. When the political agents gave him a freer hand,<sup>41</sup> he did not exercise his power with restraint and

37. RSAJ, Jodhpur State Document No. 2 Grievances (b) Economic (4) Tariff Customs and Transit duties.

38. Pr. 14 (Regent to RWRS to First Asstt. to AGG No. 4 F d. Jan. 14) in Rajputana Agency Record File No. 19.

39. (i) Ut supra, p. 134.

(ii) Oral evidence of Shri G.C. Lodha, Divisional Personnel Officer (Retd.), Northern Railway.

40. Ut supra, pp. 16-18.

41. (i) For. Pol. Feb. 10, 1844 No. 50 (Final Report of Ludlow on Jodhpur affairs d. Jan. 16).

(ii) For. Pol. Feb. 1, 1845 No. 55 (Currie to Thoresby d. Feb. 1).

(iii) For. Pol. Aug. 7, 1847 No. 847 (Sutherland's review of Jodhpur affairs).



discretion, and his relations with the nobles worsened.<sup>42</sup> During the uprising of 1857 his forces were defeated at Bithoora by the *thakur* of Auwa. His prestige and honour could be retrieved only by the British, who razed Auwa to the ground and directed him to forfeit the *thakur's jagirs* and the *jagirs* of his supporters.<sup>43</sup> After the suppression of the uprising, the Queen's proclamation guaranteed him and other princes their territorial possessions, rights and dignity.<sup>44</sup>

In 1861, a *sanad* acknowledging his right to adoption was issued by the paramount power.<sup>45</sup> In spite of his mal-administration, Takhat Singh was awarded the title of G.C.S.I. and the honour of seventeen guns on November 19, 1866 at the Agra *Darbar*.<sup>46</sup> Thus the House of Marwar, which had so far claimed independent status as an ally, became subordinate to the Empress of India. The more it depended upon that power for protection and patronage, the more used its members became to a life of carefree ease, alienated from their *sardars* and people. As a consequence of this new state of affairs, in which it was not necessary for the ruler to rely on his nobles for their military aid, the importance of the latter lessened in administration. They began retiring to their estates, where they had a freer hand to exercise absolute power.

No doubt, the foundations of good administration were laid during the reign of Jaswant Singh II. The judiciary, the police and the revenue administration were reformed, but these reforms hardly touched the landed estates beyond the operation of excise laws, and the definition of the judicial powers of *jagirdars*, which were kept wider than those of the *hakims* of the districts.<sup>47</sup> In consequence, while the lot of masses living in *khalsa* villages improved, that of the people in *jagir* areas, which formed five-sixth of Marwar went from bad to worse. The *jagirdars* clung tenaciously to the old order.

The latter half of the nineteenth century was a period of social and cultural regeneration all over the country. Social reforms and literary as well as religious activities infused patriotism into

42. Ut supra, Chap. II, pp. 23-24 and 27.

43. Ibid., p. 24-26.

44. Ibid., p. 26.

45. (i) For. Pol. A March 1862 No. 442-55.

(ii) RSAJ, *Dholra-Re-Kothar* File No. 38.

(iii) Reu, op. cit., Vol. II, p. 453.

46. (i) RSAJ, *Haqiqat Balii* No. 24, p. 465.

(ii) Reu, op. cit., Vol. II, p. 455.

47. Ut supra, pp. 44-46.

the people. Swami Dayanand, the apostle of this patriotic movement, visited Jodhpur to deliver his message to the prince and his people. He awakened them from the slumber of lethargy and inspired in them a sense of pride in the glorious heritage of India's past. His ideals of *Swadesh*, *Swabhasha* and *Swadharma* influenced the Maharaja, his brother Sir Pratap and others not to a small degree. The introduction of Hindi as a court script, prohibition of death dinners, opening of the *Vedic Pathshala*, the *Kanya Pathshala*, and the *Anathalaya* and the use of *Swadeshi* clothes were all due to this influence. These reforms and institutions today look too meagre, but they were so valuable in those days that Sir Pratap remarked, "*The Araya Samaj* would be a powerful means for the advancement of India"<sup>48</sup>.

The last two decades of the nineteenth century witnessed the development of railways and introduction of education. They gave new hopes and aspirations, but education was restricted only to those, who sought *Raj* service. Here, again the few educated ones, whose vision had been broadened, did not receive proper encouragement. Higher jobs continued to be awarded not upon the basis of education and efficiency, but upon hereditary claims and patronage. The first matriculate from the Darbar High School was only an accountant in his own alma mater,<sup>49</sup> and his brother, who was the first second class matriculate retired as a railway station master.<sup>50</sup> Similarly, the lot of the first graduate from Jodhpur was no better. He remained only a second teacher in the Darbar High School.<sup>51</sup>

Such educated men imbued new ideas among the people. They were in sympathy with the political movements in British India, which were growing in strength by leaps and bounds. They prepared the younger generation for a patriotic life. Simultaneously the railways enabled *Marwari* traders to come to their homes frequently from different parts of the country inspired by the new wave of awakening, freedom and justice. They presented a graphic picture of the movements of British India among their friends and relations in the villages, and at times defied the authority of the *jagirdars*, who committed excesses.<sup>52</sup>

48. (i) RSAJ, *Haqiqat Bahis* No. 31 p. 333; No. 35 p. 55 and No. 37 pp. 25 and 222.

(ii) Van Wart, op. cit., p. 194.

(iii) Gahlot, op. cit., pp. 66 and 226.

49. Sardar Mal, Mehta, op. cit., Appendix XXXIV, p. 147.

50. Magan Mal, Mehta, op. cit., Appendix XXXIV, p. 148.

51. Phaulal, Mehta, op. cit., pp. 24, 33 and 138.

52. Ut supra, Chap. I, pp. 44-45.

But this awakening did not take a popular shape till the close of the World War I. The people of Marwar had till then unquestioned respect and loyalty towards their rulers. During the first two decades of the present century the rulers were either minors and too young or adversely circumstanced.<sup>53</sup> Any expression of new ideas or unrest was liable to place them in an awkward position. Suppression of newspapers with nationalistic leanings and proclamation of laws against sedition proved a deterrent and stifled patriotic sentiments.<sup>54</sup> During the war even the Congress supported the cause of the British.

A remarkable change was, however, noticed in Marwar after the holocaust of 1914-18 was over. The *Raj* made a net contribution of Rs. 35,96,095 to the war. It affected the economy of the state which had been shattered twice during the war by famine and scarcity. Consequently, no steps had been taken to open new schools and dispensaries since 1914.

When the war was in full swing, the allied powers cried hoarse that they were fighting for the defence of democratic ideals. The Secretary of State for India made on August 20, 1917 the pronouncement that the policy of His Majesty's Government was the increasing association of Indians in every branch of administration and the gradual development of self-governing institutions with a view to the progressive realisation of responsible government in India.<sup>55</sup> It gave fond hopes to the people both in British India and Indian India. But the anxiously awaited Montagu-Chelmsford reforms gave them a rude shock and disappointment. At this very time the Chamber of Princes was brought into being for the protection of the rights and dignity of the rulers; but nothing was done to better the lot of the people living under them. Thus a rift was bound to result between the rulers and their subjects. An impression that the rulers were merely the agents of the British empire

53. Maharaja Sardar Singh ascended the *gaddi* on October 24, 1895 at the age of fifteen and was invested with full ruling powers from February 18, 1898. From August, 1903 he was deprived of them. They were fully restored to him with effect from February, 1909. His son Sumer Singh became the ruler of Marwar on April 5, 1911 when he was only twelve years of age. On his untimely death his minor brother Unaid Singh mounted the throne on October 14, 1918. He was invested with full ruling powers on January 27, 1923.

Ut supra, pp. 65, 67, 70, 71, 73, 96 and 99.

54. Ut supra, p. 45.

55. (i) Archbold, W.A.J., *Indian Constitutional History*, p. 167.

(ii) *Cambridge History of India*, Vol. VI, p. 589.

began gaining ground. As an impact of events, that were happening in British India, Rajasthan became politically conscious to a very great degree. Patriotic men from Rajasthan and Madhyabharat organised themselves against tyranny, and formed the *Rajputana-Madhya Bharat Sabha* in 1918. Its first session was held in *Marwari Pustakalaya*, Chandni Chowk, Delhi.<sup>56</sup> Next year, *Rajasthan Sewa Sangh* was constituted and as its branch the *Marwar Sewa Sangh* was established at Jodhpur. Its objectives were to protest against the misrule of corrupt bureaucracy, seek redress against acts of injustice and generate public awakening among the masses.<sup>57</sup>

The prominent members of the *Marwar Sewa Sangh* were Jai Narayan Vyas, Durga Shanker, Bhanwar Lal Saraf, Kan Mal and Prayag Raj Bhandari. They went to attend the Ahmedabad session of the All India National Congress in December, 1921. They wore *khadi*. Bhanwar Lal Saraf burnt his costly foreign clothes. The scope of the activities of the *Marwar Sewa Sangh* expanded and its increasing popularity was an eye-sore for the state police. It adopted repressive measures against the workers of the *Sangh*, interrogated them now and then, and urged upon the *Darbar* to institute cases against its prominent members under the Sedition Act.<sup>58</sup> In consequence, the *Marwar Sewa Sangh* was disbanded; and its members joined the *Marwar Hitkarini Sabha* which had been started earlier. It had the same programme and the same leadership, but it sought to ameliorate the lot of the people of Marwar under the aegis of the Maharaja towards whom it had proclaimed its unswerving loyalty.<sup>59</sup> Even then its task was difficult. Because of stringent press and sedition acts, organised political work was not easy to be undertaken. But the *Hitkarini Sabha* soon got an opportunity.

The Raj administration on October 29, 1923 passed an order allowing export of cows, she-goats and sheep.<sup>60</sup> The people were

56. Durga Prasad, *Rajputana-Madhya Bharat Sabha Report* (1937-38), p. 1.

57. (i) Singhvi and Calla, *Rajasthan Swadheenta Sangram* (Nov., 1963), *Deshi Riyaston-Main-Jan-Kranti*, p. 31.

(ii) Vyas, Jai Narayan, *Marwar Main Jagriti Aur Ussai Rokne ka Udyog*, pp. 5-6.

(iii) Oral evidence of Prayag Raj Bhandari and Bhanwar Lal Saraf.

58. (i) Vyas, Jai Narayan, *op. cit.*, pp. 5-6.

(ii) Joshi, Sumnesh, *Outline for a New Political History of Rajasthan*, pp. 16-17.

(iii) Oral evidence of Prayag Raj Bhandari and Bhanwar Lal Saraf.

59. (i) Joshi, Sumnesh, *op. cit.*, pp. 16-17.

(ii) *Marwar Hitkarini Sabha—Mukhasar Kayda* enforced from Oct 1, 1924.

60. Custom circular No. 8 d. Oct. 29, 1923.

wholly and rightly opposed to it both on economic and religious grounds. The *Hitkarini Sabha* took up the people's cause. It issued pamphlets, organised meetings, staged demonstrations and waited upon the Maharaja.<sup>61</sup> For a time the officials treated its leaders with contempt and frowned upon them; but their demand for the prohibition on the export of she animals was so just and so much in the interest of the state that the Maharaja acceded to it on August 15, 1924.<sup>62</sup> The success thus attained gave a new experience and insight to the people, inspired them with new hopes and aspirations, and fired them with new courage and self-confidence for the task that lay ahead. The age of imperial imperatives and imperial interests was coming to a close. Factors leading to mass awakening and mass movement for responsible government were becoming dominant.

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61. (i) Vyas, Jai Narayan, op. cit., pp. 7-9.

(ii) Oral evidence of Bhanwar Lal Saraf and Prayag Raj Bhandari.

62. (i) MAR (1923-24), Appendix XXII.

(ii) Vyas, Jai Narayan, op. cit., p. 10.

(iii) Reu, op. cit., Vol. II, p. 10.

(iv) Princely India, Saturday, May 30, 1925, p. 5 (Letter to the editor, para 4).

# ANNEXTURES

## Annexure I

*Treaty between the English East India Company and Maharaja  
Man Singh of Jodhpur represented by Yuvaraj  
Chhattar Singh dated January 6, 1818*

(Aitchison, C.U., Vol. III Jodhpur No. II pp. 128-30)

1. There shall be perpetual friendship, alliance and unity of interests between the honourable English East India Company and *Maharaja Man Singh* and his heirs and successors; and the friends and enemies of one party shall be the friends and enemies of both.

2. The British Government engages to protect the principality and territory of Jodhpur.

3. *Maharaja Man Singh* and his heirs and successors will act in subordinate co-operation with the British Government and acknowledge its supremacy; and will not have any connection with other Chiefs and States.

4. The *Maharaja* and his heirs and successors will not enter into any negotiation with any Chief or State without the knowledge and sanction of the British Government but his usual amicable correspondence with friends and relations shall continue.

5. The *Maharaja* and his heirs and successors will not commit aggressions on any one. If, by accident, disputes arise with any one they shall be submitted to the arbitration and award of the British Government.

6. The tribute heretofore paid to *Sindia* by the State of Jodhpur, of which a separate Schedule is annexed, shall be paid in perpetuity to the British Government. and the engagements of the State of Jodhpur with *Sindia* respecting tribute shall cease.

7. As the *Maharaja* declares that, besides the tribute paid to *Sindia* by the State of Jodhpur, tribute has not been paid to any other State, and engages to pay the aforesaid tribute to the British Government: if either *Sindia* or any one else lay claim to the tribute the British Government engages to reply to such claim.

8. The State of Jodhpur shall furnish fifteen hundred horse for the service of the British Government whenever required; and when necessary the whole of the Jodhpur forces shall join the British army excepting such a portion as may be requisite for the internal administration of the country.

9. The *Maharaja* and his heirs and successors shall remain absolute rulers of their country, and the jurisdiction of the British Government shall not be introduced into that principality.

10. This Treaty of ten Articles having been concluded at Delhi, and signed and sealed by Mr. Charles Theophilus Metcalfe and Byas Bishun Ram and Byas Udee Ram; the ratifications of the same by His Excellency the Governor-General and by *Raj Rajeesur Maharaja Man Singh Bahadur* and *Jugraj Maharaja Kunwar Chutter Singh Bahadur* shall be exchanged within six weeks from this date.

Done at Delhi, this sixth day of January A. D. 1818.

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### Annexure II

*Article of Agreement between Maharaja Man Singh of Jodhpur and the British Government regarding payment of Rs. 1,15,000 annually in lieu of furnishing a contingent of 1500 Horse Decmber 7, 1825.*

Aitchison, C.U., Vol. III Jodhpur No. VI p. 135

Whereas *Maharaja Man Singh Bahadur*, Raja of Jodhpur, having agreed to pay yearly, from the beginning of the month of *Poose Sudee Poorunmese Sambut* 1892, the sum of one lakh and fifteen thousand *Kaldar* Rupees in lieu of the Contingent of fifteen hundred Horse which he is bound to furnish when required, as specified in the eighth Article of his Treaty with the British Government, dated Delhi, the 6th January 1818; this paper is written as an agreement which cancels, on the part of the British Government the following words of the said eighth Article of the said Treaty, viz. : "The State of Jodhpur shall furnish fifteen hundred horse when required," and provides for the pecuniary payment at Ajmer by the State of Jodhpur as above stated, viz. "one lakh and fifteen thousand *Kaldar* Rupees per year" The first payment of one *lakh* and fifteen thousand Rupees to be made on the first day of the month of *Poose Sambut* 1893, and the same to be paid on the same date in each future year.

Done at Jodhpur, the 2nd of *Poose Budi Samout* 1892, corresponding with the 7th December, 1835.

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## Annexure III (i)

*Sambhar Salt Treaty between Maharaja Takhat Singh and the British Government, d. January 27, 1870*

Aitchison, C.U., Vol. III, Jodhpur No. XIII, pp. 147-51

1. Subject to the conditions contained in the following Agreement, the Government of Jodhpur will lease to the British Government its right of manufacturing and of selling salt within the limits of the territory bordering on the Sambhar Lake, as hereinafter defined in Article 4, and of levying duties on salt produced within such limits.

2. This lease shall continue in force until such time as the British Government desires to relinquish it, provided that the British Government shall give notice to the Government of Jodhpur of its intention to terminate the arrangement two full years previous to the date on which it desires the lease to cease.

3. To enable the British Government to carry on the manufacture and sale of salt at the Sambhar Lake, the Jodhpur Government shall empower the British Government and all officers appointed by the British Government for such purpose to enter and search, in case of suspicion, houses, and all other places, enclosed or otherwise within the limits hereinafter defined, and to arrest and punish with fine, imprisonment confiscation of goods, or otherwise, any and all persons detected within such limits in the violation of any of the rules or regulations which may be laid down by the British Government in regard to manufacture, sale, or removal of salt or the prevention of unlicensed manufacture or smuggling.

4. The strip of territory bordering on the shores of the lake, including the town of Sambhar and twelve other hamlets, and comprehending the whole of the territory now subject to the joint jurisdiction of the States of Jodhpur and Jeypore, shall be demarcated, and the whole space enclosed by such line of demarcation, as well as such portions of the lake itself or of its dry bed as are now under the said joint jurisdiction, shall be held to constitute the limits within which the British Government and its officers are authorised to exercise the jurisdiction referred to in Article 3.

5. Within the said limits, and so far as such measures may be necessary for the protection or furtherance of the manufacture, sale, or removal of salt, the prevention of smuggling, and the enforcement of the rules laid down in accordance with Article 3 of this Agreement, the British Government, or the officers by it empowered, shall be authorised to occupy land for building or other purposes, to cons-



truct roads, erect barriers, hedges, or buildings, and to remove buildings or other property.

If any land paying land revenue to the Government of Jodhpur be occupied under the authority of the British Government for any of the purposes aforesaid, the British Government shall pay to the Government of Jodhpur an annual rent equal to the amount of such revenue.

In every case in which anything involving injury to private property shall be done by the British Government or its officers under this Article, one month's previous notice shall be given to the Government of Jodhpur. and in all such cases proper compensation shall be paid by the British Government on account of such injury. In case of difference between the British Government or its officers and the owner of such property as to the amount of the compensation such amount shall be determined by arbitration.

The erection of any buildings within the said limits shall not confer on the British Government any proprietary right in the land which, on the termination of the lease, shall revert to the Government of Jodhpur, with all buildings or materials left thereon, by the British Government.

No temples or places of religious worship shall be interfered with.

6. Under the authority of the Jodhpur Government, the British Government shall constitute a Court, presided over by a competent officer, who shall usually hold his sittings within the above-mentioned limits, for the trial and punishment, on conviction, of all persons charged with violations of the rules and regulations referred to in Articles or offences connected therewith; and the British Government is authorised to cause the confinement of any such *offenders* sentenced to imprisonment either within the aforesaid limits or within its own territories as may seem to it most fitting.

7. From and after the date of the commencement of the lease the British Government will, from time to time fix the price at which salt manufactured within the said limits, and intended for exportation beyond the limits of Jodhpur and Jeypore States shall be offered for sale.

8. Of the stocks of salt owned jointly by the Governments of Jodhpur and Jeypore, and existing within the said limits at the commencement of the lease, the share belonging to the Jodhpur Government, being the half of the stocks above-mentioned, shall be transferred by the said Government to the British Government on the following terms :-

The Jodhpur Government will transfer its share in five hundred and ten thousand (5,10,000) British India *maunds* of salt to the British Government free of cost. The price to be paid for the share of the Jodhpur Government in the remainder of the said stocks shall be reckoned as six and a half *annas* ( $6\frac{1}{2}$ ) per British Indian *maund*, and payment shall be made at this rate by the British Government to the Government of Jodhpur, provided that the said payment of six and a half annas per *maund* to the Government of Jodhpur shall only commence when salt in excess of eight hundred and twenty-five thousand (8,25,000) British Indian *maunds* is sold or exported by the British Government in any year, and then only on the share of such excess which belongs to the Government of Jodhpur and until the aggregate of such yearly excesses amounts to the full quantity of the stocks of salt transferred over and above the said five hundred and ten thousand (5,10,000) British Indian *maunds*, the British Government shall not pay the royalty of 20 per cent on the sale price of such excess, as provided in Article 12.

9. No tax, toll, transit duty, or due of any kind whatsoever shall be levied by the Jodhpur Government or shall by it be *permitted* to be levied by any other person, on any salt manufactured or sold by the British Government, within the said limits, or while in transit through the Jodhpur territory, and covered by a British pass, enroute to any place outside the Jodhpur territory.

10. Nothing in this Agreement shall be held to bar the sovereign jurisdiction of the Jodhpur Government, within the aforesaid limits, in all matters, civil and criminal, not connected with the manufacture, sale, or removal of salt, or the prevention of unlicensed manufacture or smuggling.

11. The Government of Jodhpur shall be relieved of all expenses whatsoever connected with the manufacture, sale, and removal of salt, and the prevention of unlicensed manufacture or smuggling within the limits aforesaid; and in consideration of the lease granted to it the British Government agrees to pay to the Jodhpur Government in two half-yearly instalments, an annual rent of one hundred and twenty-five thousand (1,25,000) rupees, British currency, on account of the share of the Jodhpur Government in the salt sold within the said limits, and the total sum of such annual rent, amounting to one hundred, and twenty-five thousand (1,25,000 Rupees), British currency, shall be paid without reference to the quantity of salt actually sold in, or exported from, the said limits.

12. If the amount of Salt sold in, or exported from, the said limits by the British Government in any year shall exceed eight hundred and twenty-five thousand (8,25,000) British India *maunds*,

the British Government shall pay to the Government of Jodhpur on all such excess (subsequent rate to the exhaustion of the stock referred to in Article 8) a royalty at the rate of 20 per cent on the price per *maund* which shall have been fixed as the selling price under the first clause of Article 7.

In the event of any doubts arising as to the amount of salt on which royalty is claimable in any year, the accounts rendered by the principal British officer in charge at Sambhar shall be deemed conclusive evidence of the amounts actually sold or exported by the British Government within the periods to which they refer, provided that the Jodhpur Government shall not be debarred from deputing one of its own officers to keep a record of sale for its own satisfaction.

13. The British Government agree to deliver annually seven thousand (7,000) British India *maunds* of good salt, free of all charges, for the use of the Jodhpur Darbar; such salt to be delivered at the place of manufacture to any officer empowered by the Jodhpur Government to receive it.

14. The British Government shall have no claim on the land or other revenue, unconnected with salt, payable from town of Sambhar or other villages or lands included within the limits aforesaid.

15. The British Government shall not sell salt within the Jodhpur territory outside the limits of such jurisdiction as may be assigned to it by this or any other Agreement.

16. If any person employed by the British Government within the said limits shall have absconded after committing an offence or if any person shall have absconded after committing a breach of the rules laid down under Article 3, the Jodhpur Government shall, on sufficient evidence of criminality, make every effort to cause his arrest and surrender to the British authorities within the said limits, in case of his passing through, or taking refuge in, any part of the Jodhpur territories.

17. None of the conditions of this Agreement shall have effect until the British Government shall actually assume charge of the manufacture of salt within the said limits.

The British Government may determine the date of so assuming charge provided that, if such charge be not assumed or before the 1st May, 1871, the conditions of this Agreement shall be null and void.

18. None of the conditions contained in this Agreement shall be in any way set aside or modified without the previous consent of both Governments, and should either party fail or neglect to

adhere to these conditions the other party shall cease to be bound by this Agreement.

Signed, sealed, and exchanged at Jodhpur this twenty-seventh day of January A.D. eighteen hundred and seventy, corresponding to the eleventh day of Maha Bud Sumvut nineteen hundred and twenty-six.

Joshee Hunsraj,  
in native characters.

J. C. BROOKE, Col.,  
Offg. Poltl. Agent, Marwar.

This Treaty was ratified by His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor-General of India at Fort William on the fifteenth of February, 1880.

C. U. AITCHISON,  
Offg. Secy. to the Govt. of India  
Foreign Department.

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### ANNEXURE III (ii)

Nawa and Goodha Salt Treaty between *Maharaja* Takhat Singh and the British Government d. April 10, 1870.

Aitchison, C.U., Vol. III, Jodhpur No. XIV, pp. 152-56

1. Subject to the conditions contained in the following Agreement the Government of Jodhpur will lease to the British Government its right of manufacturing and of selling salt within the Limits of the territory bordering on the Sambhur Lake, as hereinafter defined in Article 4, and of levying duties on salt produced within such limits.

2. This lease shall continue in force until such time as the British Government desires to relinquish it provided that the British Government shall give notice to the Government of Jodhpur of its intention to terminate the arrangement two full years previous to the date on which it desires the lease to cease.

3. To enable the British Government to carry on the manufacture and sale of salt at the Sambhur Lake, the Jodhpur Government shall empower the British Government and all officers appointed by the British Government for such purposes to enter and search, in case of suspicion, houses and, all other places, enclosed or otherwise, within the limits hereinafter defined and to arrest and punish with fine, imprisonment, confiscation of goods or otherwise, any and all persons detected within such limits in the violation of

any of the rules or regulations which may be laid down by the British Government in regard to the manufacture, sale, or removal of salt, or the prevention of unlicensed manufacture or smuggling.

4. A strip of territory, bordering the shores of the lake throughout, within the separate jurisdiction of Jodhpur, including Nawa, Goodha and other villages and hamlets, and averaging two (2) miles in width measured from the high water limits of the lake, shall be demarcated, and the whole space enclosed by such line of demarcation, as well as such portions of the lake itself or of its dry bed as are now under the exclusive and separate jurisdiction of Jodhpur, shall be held to constitute the limits within which the British Government and its officers are authorised to exercise the jurisdiction referred to in Article 3.

5. Within the said limits, and so far as such measures may be necessary for the protection or furtherance of the manufacture, sale or removal of salt, the prevention of smuggling, and the enforcement of the rules laid down in accordance with Article 3 of this Agreement, the British Government, or the officers by it empowered, shall be authorised to occupy land for building or other purposes, to construct roads, erect barriers, hedges or buildings, and to remove buildings or other property.

If any land paying land revenue to the Government of Jodhpur, be occupied under the authority of the British Government for any of the purposes aforesaid, the British Government shall pay to the Government of Jodhpur an annual rent equal to the amount of such revenue.

In every case in which anything involving injury to private property shall be done by the British Government or its officers under this Article, one month's previous notice shall be given to the Government of Jodhpur, and in all cases proper compensation shall be paid by the British Government on account of such injury. In case of difference between the British Government or its officers and the owner of such property as to the amount of the compensation, such amount shall be determined by arbitration.

The erection of any buildings within the said limits shall not confer on the British Government any proprietary right in the land, which, on the termination of the lease, shall revert to the Government of Jodhpur with all buildings or materials left thereon by the British Government.

No temples or places of religious worship shall be interfered with.

6. Under the authority of the Jodhpur Government the British Government shall constitute a Court, presided over by a competent officer, for the trial and punishment, on conviction, of all persons charged with violations of the rules and regulations referred to in Article 3, or offences connected therewith; and the British Government is authorised to cause the confinement of any such offenders sentenced to imprisonment within the aforesaid limits or elsewhere as may seem to it most fitting.

7. From and after the date of the commencement of the lease the British Government will, from time to time, fix the price at which salt manufactured within the said limits shall be offered for sale.

8. The whole of the stocks of salt existing within the aforesaid limits at the commencement of the lease shall be transferred by the Jodhpur Government to the British Government on the following terms :

The Government of Jodhpur will transfer six hundred thousand (6,00,000) British Indian *maunds* of salt to the British Government as stock with which to commence operations free of cost. The price to be paid to the Jodhpur Government for the remainder of the said stock shall be reckoned at six and a half annas ( $6\frac{1}{2}$ ) per British Indian *maund*, and payment shall be made at this rate by the British Government to the Government of Jodhpur, provided that the said payment of six and a half annas ( $6\frac{1}{2}$ ) per *maund* to the Government of Jodhpur shall only commence when salt in excess of nine hundred thousand (9,00,000) British Indian *maunds* is sold or exported by the British Government in any year; and until the aggregate of such yearly excesses amounts to the full quantity of the stocks of salt transferred, over and above the said six hundred thousand (6,00,000) British *maunds*, the British Government shall not pay the royalty of forty (40) per cent on the sale price of such excess, as provided in Article 12.

9. No tax, toll, transit duty, or dues of any kind whatsoever shall be levied by the Jodhpur Government, or shall, by it be permitted to be levied by any other person, on any salt manufactured or sold by the British Government within the said limits, or while in transit through the Jodhpur territory and covered by a British pass, en route to any place outside the Jodhpur territory, provided that on all salt sold for consumption within the territory of Jodhpur the Government of that State will be at liberty to levy whatever tax it may please.

10. Nothing in this Agreement shall be held to bar the sovereign jurisdiction of the Jodhpur Government within the aforesaid

limits in all matters, civil and criminal, not connected with the manufacture, sale or removal of salt, or the prevention of unlicensed manufacture or smuggling.

11. The Government of Jodhpur shall be relieved of all expenses whatsoever connected with the manufacture, sale, and removal of salt, and the prevention of unlicensed manufacture or smuggling within the limits aforesaid, and in consideration of the lease and other immunities hereby granted to it the British Government agrees to pay to the Jodhpur Government, in two half-yearly instalments, an annual rent of three lakhs (3,00,000) of Rupees, British currency, and the total sum of such annual rent, amounting to three lakhs (3,00,000) of Rupees British currency, shall be paid without reference to the quantity of salt actually sold in, or exported from the said limits. The above sum of three lakhs (3,00,000) of Rupees shall include all rights of *bhoom*, transit dues and *luqs* of every kind due to the *Thakoor* of Koochaman and others which the Jodhpur Government agrees to satisfy.

12. If the amount of salt sold in, or exported from the said limits by the British Government in any year shall exceed nine hundred thousand (9,00,000) British Indian *maunds*, the British Government shall pay to the Government of Jodhpur on all such excess (subsequent to the exhaustion of the stock referred to in Article 8) a royalty at the rate of forty (40) per cent on the price per *maund*, which shall have been fixed as the selling price under Article 7.

In the event of any doubts arising as to the amount of salt on which royalty is claimable in any year the account rendered by the principal British Officer in charge at Sambhar shall be deemed conclusive evidence of the amounts actually sold or exported by the British Government within the periods to which they refer provided that the Jodhpur Government shall not be debarred from deputing one of its own officers to keep a record of sales for its own satisfaction.

13. The British Government agrees to deliver annually seven thousand (7,000) British Indian *maunds* of good salt, free of all charges, for the use of the Jodhpur Darbar; such salt to be delivered at the place of manufacture to any officer empowered by the Jodhpur Government to receive it.

14. The British Government shall have no claim on the land or other revenue, unconnected with salt, payable from the townships of Nawa, Goodha, or other villages or lands included within the limits aforesaid.

15. The British Government shall not sell any salt within the Jodhpur territory outside the limits of such jurisdiction as may be assigned to it by this or any other Agreement.

16. If any person employed by the British Government within the said limits shall have absconded after committing an offence, or if any person shall have absconded after committing a breach of the Rules laid down under Article 3, the Jodhpur Government shall, on sufficient evidence of his criminality, make every effort to cause his arrest and surrender to the British authorities within the said limits, in case of his passing through, or taking refuge in any part of the Jodhpur territories.

17. None of the conditions of this Agreement shall have effect until the British Government shall actually assume charge of the manufacture of salt within the said limits.

The British Government may determine the date of so assuming charge provided that, if such charge be not assumed on or before the 1st May 1871, the conditions of this Agreement shall be null and void.

18. None of the conditions contained in this Agreement shall in any way be set aside or modified without the previous consent of both Governments; and should either party fail or neglect to adhere to these conditions, the other party shall cease to be bound by this Agreement.

Signed at Jodhpur on the eighteenth day of April A.D. one thousand eight hundred and seventy.

**J.C. BROOKE, Col.**

Offg. Poltl. Agent, Marwar.

**Joshee Huns Raj**

This Treaty was ratified by His Excellency, the Viceroy and Governor-General of India at Simla on the 26th July, 1870.

**C.U. AITCHISON,**

Offg. Secy. to the Govt. of India, F.D.

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## Annexure III (iii)

## Prohibition of Salt Manufacture

*Agreement between Maharaja Jaswant Singh and the British Government d. May 8, 1879 regarding Prohibition and Prevention of the Manufacture of Salt within any part of Jodhpur.*

Aitchison, C.U., Vol. III, Jodhpur No. XV, pp. 156-60

1. His Highness the *Maharaja* of Jodhpur agrees to suppress and absolutely prohibit and prevent the manufacture of salt within any part of the Jodhpur State except at salt sources administered by the British Government, or worked under special licenses from the British Government.

Provided, that nothing in this Article shall be held to prohibit the bonafide manufacture of saltpetre at any work now existing within the Jodhpur State, or the opening at any time with the previous knowledge of the Political Agent of such new saltpetre works as the *Maharaja* of Jodhpur may consider necessary.

2. His Highness the *Maharaja* undertakes to prevent the importation into, or exportation from, the Jodhpur State, of any salt whatever other than salt upon which duty has been levied by the British Government.

3. No export or transit duty shall be levied within the Jodhpur State upon salt upon which duty has been levied by the British Government.

4. His Highness the *Maharaja* agrees to the British Government from a date to be fixed by that Government the right of manufacturing and selling salt at the salt sources or *daribas* here below named :

Pachpadra,  
Didwana,

Phalodi,  
The Luni Tract.

Provided, that if the British Government shall at any time cease to carry on or permit the manufacture of salt at any or all of the said salt sources, they shall equitably compensate all proprietors of private works therein situated and all manufacturers therein employed for any losses they may, in consequence, sustain.

Provided, also that the *Maharaja* of Jodhpur shall only be held to transfer to the British Government such rights, property and authority over any works or pits at present existing at any of the said sources as are now actually vested in himself.

5. His Highness the *Maharaja* will in consultation with the Political Agent, cause each of the four salt sources aforesaid to be demarcated by a line enclosing the whole tract occupied, and shall extend the provisions of Article 3, 5, 6, and 16 of the Sambhar Lake

Treaty of 1870 to the tracts so enclosed, so far as they may be applicable. The British Government agrees to the extension of Articles 10, 14 and 15 of the said Treaty to the said tract.

6. The British Government agree to pay annually, in half-yearly instalments to His Highness the *Maharaja* for the lease of the four salt sources named in article 4 (including compensation to all holders of *dharmada* and similar charitable and religious allotments) the following sums in British Indian currency :

For Didwana	...	Rs. 2,00,000
Pachpadra	...	Rs. 1,70,000
Phalodi	...	Rs. 4,500
Luni Tract	...	Rs. 1,500
Total	...	<u>Rs. 3,76,000</u>

(Rupees three lakhs  
seventy-six thousand).

And for losses sustained by  
the suppression of *Khari*  
works in *khalsa* land

Rs. 15,800

Total Rs. 3,91,800

(Rupees three Lakhs ninety-one thousand eight hundred).

7. The losses likely to be incurred by *Jagirdars* and others entitled to share in the rents and revenues of the salt works that will be suppressed under this Agreement having been considered by the British Government and the *Maharaja*, to the British Government further agree to pay annually, and His Highness the *Maharaja* undertakes to distribute the indemnities settled aggregating rupees nineteen thousand five hundred and ninety-five, annas five and pies three (19,595-5-3) in accordance with Schedule A attached to this Agreement.

8. The losses of *Kharols* and others connected with the manufacture of salt within the Jodhpur State having been considered in concert by the British Government and the *Maharaja* of Jodhpur, the British Government hereby agree to pay to His Highness the *Maharaja* the sum of rupees three lakhs by way of compensation to the said persons, and His Highness the *Maharaja* undertakes to distribute the said sum of rupees three lakhs among the said persons.

9. If any stocks of salt be found to exist within the Jodhpur State at the time when this Agreement comes into force or when a duty shall be first imposed by the British Government at the aforesaid works on their produce, the *Maharaja* of Jodhpur will, if so required by the British Government, take possession of such stocks, and will

give the owners thereof the option either of transferring the salt to the British Government at such equitable valuation as he may fix, in concurrence with the Political Agent, or of paying the said Agent such duty not exceeding two rupees eight annas per *maund* on such salt as the Governor-General-in-Council may fix. In the event of the owners as aforesaid accepting the latter alternative they, shall be allowed to retain the salt on which the said duty may have been paid, but not otherwise.

10. In consideration of the loyal and effective observance by His Highness the *Maharaja* of Jodhpur of the stipulations in this Agreement regarding the suppression of minor salt-works, the indemnities payable to proprietors, the exemptions from transit duty of salt, covered by British passes and the prevention of export of other salt, the British Government agree to pay to His Highness the *Maharaja* of Jodhpur the following sums annually:

	Rs.
On account of transit and export duties on salt	25,000
For preventive establishment	50,000
For miscellaneous revenue and incidental emoluments	50,000
Total	1,25,000

(Rupees one lakh twenty-five thousand).

11. Furthermore, the British Government agree that, in the event of the total money realizations from the sale of salt at the leased works collectively exceeding in any year the total charges properly debitable against the same, one-half of the said excess shall be made over to His Highness the *Maharaja*. The accounts rendered by the several British officers in charge of the said sources shall be conclusive evidence as to the amount of such excess.

12. The British Government agree to deliver annually 2,25,000 (two lakhs twenty-five thousand) *maunds* of good salt in half-yearly instalments of 1,12,000 and 1,13,000 *maunds* respectively), at a price not exceeding eight annas per *maund* free of duty to the officers of His Highness the *Maharaja* for the use of the people of the Jodhpur State. The first instalment of salt shall be claimable on the expiration of six months from the date of the assumption of the management of the works by the British Government, or sooner, should the *Maharaja* desire it and if the requisite quantity be available at the works.

Each instalment shall be removed by the officers of the *Maharaja* within one year from the date of its falling due, failing which all claim to it or of such portion of it as may remain unremoved shall cease. Not less than one half of this salt shall be delivered at

Pachpadra, and the British Government will endeavour to deliver the remainder from the several works that may be open in such proportions as His Highness the *Maharaja* may desire.

13. The British Government agree to deliver annually at Pachpadra ten thousand (10,000) British Indian *maunds* of salt of good quality, free of all charges, for the use of His Highness the *Maharaja*, to any officer deputed by His Highness the *Maharaja* to receive it.

14. The British Government agree to permit the petty works noted in Schedule B annexed to this Agreement to be kept open for the manufacture of khari required for industrial purposes, and His Highness the *Maharaja* agrees so to supervise these works as to prevent their total out-turn in any one year exceeding 20,000 *maunds*, and to furnish to the British Government annual returns of the out-turn of each of the said works.

15. In the event of its being proved by experience that the arrangements made in accordance with this Agreement by His Highness the *Maharaja* for the safety of the British revenue are practically insufficient, or in the event of it being provided to the full satisfaction of the British Government that the quantity of salt provided for the consumption and use of the people of Jodhpur in Article 12 is materially insufficient, this Agreement will be open to revision.

16. This Agreement is to come into force from a date to be fixed hereafter by the British Government.

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## Annexure IV

*Note from the Jodhpur Vakil to the Political Agent, Marwar dated May 15, 1847 regarding Umarkote.*

Atchison, C.U., Vol.III, Jodhpur No. VIII, p. 138

I communicated to His Highness the *Maharaja* the contents of your note of the 6th March last, intimating that in lieu of the cession of Umarkote, a yearly deduction of Rupees 10,000 would be made from the Rs. 1,15,000 Sowar Khurch.

His Highness observed, "Umarkote was mine and my claim to it is clear, as the *Sahib Bahadur* knows. As long as it remains in the possession of the British Government I may look upon it as belonging to myself; but whenever the British Government may be pleased to grant it away let it be granted to me, and not to another, for Umarkote was mine, so let it be granted to me. In Rajasthan we estimate a right to land very high, and the day on which Umarkote is given to me will be a day of great rejoicing.

"In the meanwhile may the 10,000 Rupees be deducted yearly from the 1,08,000 (tribute payable to the British Government). This deduction is granted in lieu of land, and tribute is leviable on land, therefore it ought to be deducted from the tribute."

Approved and confirmed by the Governor-General-in-Council on 17th June 1847.

**Annexure V(i)**  
*Ruling Chiefs of Marwar*  
 (1873-1923)

Birth	Accession	Investiture with full ruling powers	Death
1. Maharaja Man Singh Feb. 13, 1783	Nov. 5, 1803	...	Sept. 4, 1843
2. Maharaja Takhat Singh June 6, 1819	Dec. 1, 1843	...	Feb. 12, 1873
3. Maharaja Jaswant Singh II Oct. 7, 1837	March 1, 1873	...	Oct. 11, 1895
4. Maharaja Sardar Singh Feb. 11, 1880	Oct. 24, 1895	Feb. 18, 1898	March 20, 1911
5. Maharaja Sumer Singh Jan. 14, 1898	April 5, 1911	Feb. 26, 1916	Oct. 3, 1918
6. Maharaja Umaid Singh July 8, 1903	Oct. 14, 1918	Jan. 27, 1923	June 3, 1947

Annexure V(ii)  
*Agents to the Governor-Generals in Rajputana*  
 (1832-1923)

S.No.	Name	Date of assumption of office	Officiating A.G.G's
1	2	3	4
1.	Lt. Col. A. Lockett	1832	Major A. Spiers (Nov. 29, 1833)
2.	Major Nathaniel Alves	April 18, 1834	Capt. John Ludlow (Feb. 1, 1839)
3.	Lt. Col. John Sutherland <sup>1</sup>	Feb. 12, 1839	Major C. Thoresby (Feb. 26, 1844 to March 2, 1846) Lt. Col. Showers (June 25 to Nov. 19, 1848)
4.	Col. John Low	Nov. 20, 1848	Major D.A. Malcolm (Sept. 8 to Dec. 1, 1851)
5.	Lt. Col. Sir H.M. Lawrence	March 5, 1853	...
6.	Col. George St. Pierre Lawrence	March 15, 1857	Major W.T. Eden (April 10, 1859 to Nov. 24, 1860)
7.	Lt. Col. E.K. Elliot	April 15, 1864	A.R. Bruce (March 27, 1865)
8.	Lt. Col. William Fredrick Eden	April 3, 1865	...
9.	Lt. Col. R.H. Keatinge	Nov. 4, 1867	...
10.	Col. J.C. Brooke	June 15, 1870	...
11.	Col. Lewis Pelly	June 21, 1873	Col. W.H. Beynon (April 6 to July 5, 1874)

1. Died at Bharatpur on June 24, 1848.

1	2	3	4
12.	C. Lyall	Nov. 12, 1874	C.K.M. Walter (Aug. 18, 1876 to March 8, 1877)
13.	Major E.R.C. Bradford	March 23, 1878	C.K.M. Walter (March 17, 1881 to Nov. 29, 1882)
14.	Col. C.K.M. Walter	March 27, 1887	...
15.	Col. G.H. Trevor	March 20, 1890	Col. P.W. Powlett (Aug. 27 to Nov. 27, 1891)  Lt. Col. W.H. Curzon Wyllie (Nov. 5, to Nov. 22, 1893)  Col. W.F. Prideaux (Nov. 22, 1893 to Jan. 9, 1894)  Lt. Col. H B. Abbott (March 20 to Oct. 8, 1895)
16.	R.J. Crosthwaite	Oct. 28, 1895	...
17.	A.H.T. Martindale	March 1, 1898	Lt. Col. C.E. Yate (Aug. 27 to Oct. 21, 1898)  Lt. Col. W.H. Curzon Wyllie (May 1, 1900 to March 31, 1901)  Lt. A.P. Thornton (April 1, 1901 to Feb. 2, 1902)
18.	E.G. Colvin	April 1, 1905	Lt. Col. Charles Herbert (July 12, 1906 to Jan. 7, 1907)  Lt. Col. A.F. Pinney (Nov. 6, 1908 to Oct. 18, 1909)



1	2	3	4
19.	Lt. Col. J. Manners Smith	Nov. 12, 1917	Lt. Col. W.C.R. Stratton (May 4, to Nov. 3, 1912)  Lt. Col. J.L. Kaye (Sept. 30 to Oct. 15, 1915)  A.T. Holme April 21 to Nov. 27, 1919)
20.	R.E. Holland	Dec. 22, 1919	Lt. Col. P.T.A. Spence (Nov. 28 to Dec 21, 1919)  Lt. Col. R.A.E. Behn (May 14 to June 23, 1920)  A.T. Home (June 24 to Nov. 18, 1920)  C.C. Watson (March 6 to Oct. 27, 1923)

### Annexure V(iii)

*(1) Political Agents of (a) Marwar, (b) Marwar and Jaisalmer and (c) Western Rajputana States and (2) Residents, Western Rajputana States with headquarters at Jodhpur<sup>1</sup>*

S. No.	Name	Date of assumption of office	Officiating Residents
1	2	3	4
1.	Capt. J. Lud'ow	September 9, 1839	
2.	Capt. P.S. French	January 20, 1844	
3.	Capt. H.H. Greathed	January 16, 1845	
4.	Capt. D.A. Malcolm	March 1, 1848	
5.	Lt. Col. Sir R. Shakespeare	December 15, 1851	
6.	Capt. G.M. Monck Mason <sup>2</sup>	March 28, 1857	
7.	Major R. Morrison	October 5, 1857	
8.	Capt. J.C. Brooke	December 2, 1858	
9.	Capt. J.P. Nixon	July 31, 1859	
10.	Capt. E C. Impey	August 21, 1865	
11.	Lt. Col. J.C. Brooke	July 29, 1868	
12.	Major E.C. Impey	October 20, 1870	
13.	Major C.K.M. Walter	January 15, 1873	
14.	Major T. Cadell	January 15, 1878	

1. The Political charge of Jodhpur, Jaisalmer and Sirohi was amalgamated with the command of the Erinpura Irregular Force in October, 1879 and was named Western Rajputana States Agency in 1880. The command of the Erinpura Irregular Force was separated from the duty of the Political Agent in December, 1881. The following year the headquarters were moved from Erinpura to Jodhpur and the designation Western Rajputana States Residency came into use.

2. Killed at Auwa on September 18, 1857.

1	2	3	4
15.	Capt. D.W.K. Barr	March 28, 1878	
16.	Major T. Cadell	January 21, 1880	
17.	Major P.W. Powlett	January 3, 1880	
18.	Lt. Col. Tweedie	November 2, 1880	
19.	Lt. Col. P.W. Powlett	December 25, 1881	Major C.H. Baylay (September 25 to December 24, 1884) Lt. Col. H.P. Peacock (April 5 to December 10, 1886) Major W. Loch (August 20 to November 19, 1889)
20.	Lt. Col. H.B. Abbott	April 10, 1892	Lt. Col. W.H. Wyllie (May 4 to November 2, 1893) Lt. Col. J.H. Newill (March 22 to June 26, 1895) A.H.T. Martindale (June 27 to October 27, 1895) Lt. Col. A. Adams (December 18, 1895 to January 17, 1896)
21.	A.H.T. Martindale	April 4, 1897	Major T.C. Pears (March 17 to April 20, 1898) Lt. Col. C.E. Yate April 25 to December 11, 1898)
22.	Lt. Col. W.H.C. Wyllie	December 12, 1898	Lt. Col. C.E. Yate (April 12 to November 9, 1899)

1	2	3	4
23.	Lt. Col. A.P. Thornton	April 26, 1900	
24.	Lt.Col. K.D. Erskine	April 16, 1901	
25.	Lt. Col. R.H. Jennings	1903	R.A. Lyall (December 4, 1904 to February 13, 1905)
26.	Lt. Col. W.C.R. Stratton	April 12, 1905	H.V. Cobb (April 3 to September 18, 1908)
27.	E.V. Grabriel	September 19, 1908	
28.	Lt. Col. K.D. Erskine	January 20, 1909	
29.	Lt. Col. C.J. Windham	October 15, 1910	Major J.W. Grant (July 6 to September 6, 1912) A.B. Macpherson (November 7 to 25, 1918)
30.	L.W. Reynolds	November 26, 1918	H.B. St. John (April 14 to September 30, 1921)

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<i>Aulha Bahis</i>		powers and privileges of nobles and civil servants
<i>Hath Bahis</i>	giving records of	consultations, rules and regulations.
<i>Haqiqat Bahis</i>		daily transactions, events, visits, etc.
<i>Kharita Bahis</i>		correspondence with the paramount power and other states.
<i>Sanad Bahis</i>		administrative instructions.

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## GLOSSARY

<i>Aan</i>	oath
<i>Ankbandi</i>	a rough estimate of what a village ought to pay
<i>Abkari</i>	excise
<i>Abru</i>	prestige
<i>Adalat</i>	court
<i>Adalat Diwani</i>	civil court
<i>Adalat Faujdari</i>	criminal court
<i>Adalat Appeal</i>	appellate court
<i>Angarkha</i>	a full-sleeved buttonless vest (vestment)
<i>Annkai</i>	grain famine
<i>Babhas</i>	illegitimate sons of chiefs and nobles
<i>Barani</i>	insecure land
<i>Bapidar</i>	land holders with proprietary rights
<i>Bakshi</i>	officer responsible for recruitment of soldiers and payment to them
<i>Bigori</i>	cash rent per <i>bigha</i>
<i>Bijaishahi</i>	local currency first minted during the reign of Vijai Singh
<i>Bhomia</i>	holder of land who paid only quit rent called <i>Bhom</i> and performed specific duties
<i>Chahi</i>	land irrigated by wells
<i>Chakri</i>	service rendered by subordinates
<i>Clanwari</i>	wedding fee
<i>Chowki</i>	outpost, i.e. a police or excise chowki
<i>Chowkidar</i>	watchman
<i>Chudidar Paijanta</i>	an imitation of the muslim nether garment, almost skin-tight up to knees and loose above
<i>Chunchdar Pag</i>	beaked turban
<i>Dak</i>	post/postal system
<i>Dan</i>	customs duty
<i>Darab</i>	minters
<i>Darbar</i>	ruler/administration/royal court
<i>Dakaiti</i>	dacoity
<i>Daroga</i>	It has two meanings: (i) inspector and (ii) a caste of hereditary servants of <i>Rajputs</i>
<i>Diwan</i>	minister for revenue and finance
<i>Deelgaon</i>	<i>jagirdar's</i> chief village after which his fief was known, also called <i>pattagaon</i>

<i>Dhoti</i>	loin cloth
<i>Fauj</i>	army
<i>Faujbal</i>	military cess paid by the <i>jagirdars</i> of Malani
<i>Gaddi</i>	throne
<i>Gadda</i>	mattress
<i>Gharbab</i>	house tax
<i>Ghasmari</i>	grazing fee
<i>Gola</i>	slave
<i>Guran</i>	teacher
<i>Ijaredar</i>	contractor who realised the revenue on behalf of a <i>jagirdar</i> or the state
<i>Iktisanda</i>	a local silver coin minted at Kuchaman
<i>Izzat</i>	prestige
<i>Jadia</i>	bandage to hold the parted beard in position
<i>Jagir</i>	land grant
<i>Jagirdar</i>	a holder of land grant
<i>Jalkal</i>	water famine
<i>Jama</i>	scheduled land income of a village
<i>Hakeem</i>	practitioner of the Unani system of medicine
<i>Hakim</i>	head of the administration of a district (present day subdivision)
<i>Hakumat</i>	court and office of the <i>Hakim</i>
<i>Hawala</i>	land revenue
<i>Hawaladar</i>	village official of the land revenue department
<i>Hukamnama</i>	succession fee
<i>Kal</i>	famine
<i>Kaldar rupia</i>	imperial rupee
<i>Kalsi</i>	a measure approximately equal to three quintals
<i>Karkun</i>	official of the salt department
<i>Kaseed</i>	postal runners
<i>Khalsa</i>	crown lands/unalienated lands
<i>Kila fauj</i>	garrison for the defence of a fort
<i>Kos</i>	2 miles/3.3 km
<i>Kotwal</i>	magistrate and police chief of a city
<i>Khali chhithi</i>	permit to carry goods duty free
<i>Kharif</i>	rain crop
<i>Kharitas</i>	letters to and from other rulers and crown representatives
<i>Lag/Lag-bag</i>	cess/cesses
<i>Maharaja</i>	ruling prince

<i>Maharaj</i>	a brother or a descendant of a brother of the ruling prince up to three generations
<i>Mansab</i>	army rank under the Mughals
<i>Mansabdar</i>	holder of army rank under the Mughals
<i>Mapa</i>	measurement duty
<i>Mehkma</i>	department/office
<i>Mehkma Girai</i>	police department
<i>Mehkma Khas</i>	secretariat
<i>Mehkma Musahibat</i>	office of the prime minister's secretariat
<i>Mohar</i>	gold coin
<i>Muchhpatti</i>	bandage for training the moustache to twirl up
<i>Musahib Ala</i>	prime minister
<i>Mutsaddi/Musahib</i>	hereditary civil servant
<i>Munim</i>	accountant or agent of a merchant
<i>Munsif</i>	civil judge
<i>Nazar</i>	gift offered to official superior
<i>Nukta</i>	death feast
<i>Oti (sandni sowars)</i>	she-camel riders
<i>Pargana</i>	district (present day subdivision)
<i>Pardaet</i>	a concubine who had a recognised status in the harem of the ruler or a noble
<i>Pagi</i>	tracker
<i>Pasban</i>	a favourite concubine ( <i>pardaet</i> ) who took seat just below the queen
<i>Patta</i>	title deed
<i>Poshal</i>	school
<i>Rabi</i>	spring crop
<i>Rahadari</i>	transit duty
<i>Raj</i>	state
<i>Rajmata</i>	ruler's mother
<i>Rajinama</i>	settlement of a dispute by compromise
<i>Rani</i>	queen
<i>Rath</i>	chariot
<i>Raoraja</i>	a natural son of a ruler from a <i>pardaet</i> and his descendants up to three generations.
<i>Ravanna</i>	permit obtained after paying customs dues
<i>Rekh</i>	annual demand on <i>jagirdars</i> at eight per cent on the scheduled revenue
<i>Reet</i>	money paid to the bride's father
<i>Sabha</i>	association
<i>Sadar</i>	headquarters
<i>Sufa</i>	turban

<i>Samadh</i>	the practice of committing suicide by burying oneself alive
<i>Sangh</i>	society
<i>Sardar</i>	noble
<i>Sati</i>	the system under which a widow burnt herself alive with the dead body of her husband
<i>Sayar</i>	customs duty
<i>Sayar Thanedar</i>	official of the customs outpost
<i>Seth</i>	banker
<i>Sherwani</i>	long buttoned up coat
<i>Siddha</i>	gift
<i>Sikka</i>	coin
<i>Sowar</i>	rider
<i>Taccavi</i>	a kind of relief loan to agriculturists
<i>Takia</i>	pillow
<i>Tazim</i>	the privilege of being received by the ruler at the court in one or more of the different prescribed modes
<i>Teeka</i>	betrothal ceremony
<i>Thakur</i>	feudal chief
<i>Thanedar</i>	security and revenue officer during the time of the Mughals/subinspector of police
<i>Thikana</i>	a <i>jagir</i> enjoying some sort of <i>tazim</i> (privilege)
<i>Tilak</i>	Mark such as vermilion or sandal paste on the forehead
<i>Tinkal</i>	fodder famine
<i>Trikal</i>	treble famine (famine of water, food-grains and fodder)
<i>Tonga</i>	horse carriage
<i>Tyag</i>	gifts to <i>charans</i> at the occasions of marriages and deaths
<i>Unalu</i>	spring crop
<i>Vaidya</i>	traditional practitioner of the system of medicine called <i>Ayurveda</i>
<i>Vakil</i>	Representative of a state in foreign courts
<i>Wardat</i>	incident
<i>Waqia-navis</i>	informer/reporter
<i>Zarrah</i>	one who practised indigineous surgery
<i>Zuraim Peshä Kaum</i>	tribes notorious for committing crimes
<i>Zenana</i>	harem



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